



BATMAN AND ROBIN!



No. 144

FEB.

Ten Cents

Detective COMICS

A 52 PAGE MAGAZINE

FOR MENACE
AND MUSIC
TUNE IN NOW

as
**BATMAN
and ROBIN**
star with
KAY KYSER

IN
"The MYSTERY
BROADCAST"





Brownie Flash Six-20 Camera
Makes splendid snaps "around the clock." Full-color pictures, too, in bright sun. Two-position focusing helps get sharp, clear snaps. Negatives, $2\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{4}$. \$10.50 plus tax; Flashholder, \$2.50 plus tax.



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BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-

YOU ALL KNOW
KAY KYSER—
YOU'VE ALL HEARD
HIS SMASH RADIO
QUIZ SHOW, "THE
COLLEGE OF MUSICAL
KNOWLEDGE."

BUT DID YOU EVER
DREAM THAT ONE DAY
BATMAN WOULD APPEAR
ON THE PROGRAM IN A
DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO
SAVE KAY KYSER FROM
A SINISTER PLOT? YES—
BATMAN, WITH **ROBIN**.
THE **BOY WONDER**, GOES
TO "COLLEGE"... TO BE
GRADUATED INTO ONE
OF THE MOST THRILLING
CASES OF HIS CAREER—
**"KAY KYSER'S
MYSTERY
BROADCAST!"**



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AS SOCIETY PLAYBOY, BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON, STROLL THROUGH GOTHAM CITY ONE EVENING...

SHOTS FROM BEHIND THAT BUILDING!

LET'S HAVE A LOOK-SEE - BUT NOW!

A FLASH-QUICK CHANGE OF GARB... AND **BATMAN AND ROBIN**, THE BOY WONDER, EMERGE...EVER READY FOR THEIR BATTLE AGAINST CRIME...

SHALL WE DROP IN UNANNOUNCED?

LOOK-HE'S SEEN US! THERE HE GOES DOWN THAT ALLEY!

AND THERE WE GO, TOO!

BUT IN THE ALLEY...

GONE? BUT NOT BEFORE I HAD A GOOD LOOK AT HIS FACE - THAT WAS NONE OTHER THAN BIG JACK BANCROFT!

WOW! BIG JACK - PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER ONE!

MINUTES LATER, IN ANOTHER GOTHAM CITY ALLEY...

14TH PRECINCT REPORTS BANCROFT SHOT HIS WAY THROUGH CORDON AND DISAPPEARED. HE WAS CARRYING NO BAGGAGE - THE ENORMOUS LOOT OF LAST NIGHT'S ROBBERY IS STILL AT LARGE...

HA, HA! THOSE DUMB COPPER'S WILL NEVER FIND THE DOUGH WHERE I'VE STASHED IT! BUT IT'S GETTIN' TOO WARM AROUND HERE - GOT TO FIND A GOOD HIDE-OUT...

AND, WAITING HIS CHANCE, THE DESPERADO STRIKES QUICKLY...

OKAY, PALLIES - PILE OUTA THERE! I'LL BE NEEDIN' YOUR CAR FOR SOME FAST TRAVELIN'!

BUT AS BIG JACK MOVES CLOSER TO HIS VICTIMS...

WAIT A MINUTE! I'VE SEEN YOUR MUGG BEFORE—YOU'RE KAY KYSER, THE BIG BANDLEADER, AIN'TCHA?

THAT'S RIGHT—SAY, WHAT KIND OF A GAG IS THIS?

KAY KYSER, EH? WHO'S THIS OTHER GUY?

EDDIE BLINN, ONE OF MY SAXAPHONE PLAYERS! NOW LOOK, FELLA—TURN THAT GUN THE OTHER WAY AND LET'S STOP THE FOOLISHNESS! I'M A BUSY GUY—I GO ON THE AIR IN AN HOUR!

THAT MUSICIAN AND I LOOK KINDA ALIKE—AND I ONCE FOOLED AROUND WITH A SAX IN THE PRISON BAND! HMMM—THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA!

YOU'LL GO ON THE AIR AS SCHEDULED, KYSER—BUT WITH A BRAND-NEW SAX PLAYER—ME!

YOU'RE MAD—YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH THIS!

YOU PLAY THIS THE WAY I TELL YOU, AND NOBODY'LL EVER CATCH ON! BUT MAKE ONE FALSE MOVE, AND IT'S CURTAINS FOR YOUR BUDDY THERE!

Tonight! KAY KYSER'S COLLEGE OF MUSICAL KNOWLEDGE BROADCAST DIRECT FROM THE STADIUM! *Music! Thrills! Laughs!*

HA, HA—A LITTLE MAKE-UP, AND I'M ALL SET! JUST THINK—POLICE LOOKIN' FOR ME EVERYWHERE EXCEPT THE ONE PLACE THEY'D NEVER THINK TO LOOK—IN THE SPOTLIGHT WITH KAY KYSER!

HE WATCHES ME LIKE A HAWK! I CAN'T MAKE A MOVE WITHOUT ENDANGERING EDDIE!

OKAY, FELLAS—THE SHOW'S ABOUT TO BEGIN!

THIS IS GOING TO BE TRICKY. I HOPE SOMEONE'S HEP ENOUGH TO CATCH ON!

FOLKS, YOU ALL KNOW THE HIT I INTRODUCED, "WOODY THE WOODPECKER." WELL, HERE'S A BRAND-NEW ARRANGEMENT OF IT...

...THIS NEW VERSION OF "WOODY THE WOODPECKER" IS DEDICATED TO MY FRIEND, MR. MORSE!

FUNNY- THAT'S THE SECOND TIME KYSER SAID THAT... AND HE SAID IT LAST WEEK, TOO...

HA-HA-HA-
HAN-HAN-HAN-

HE'S CHANGED THE WHOLE THING AGAIN? THERE'S THAT EXTRA NOTE IN THE WOODPECKER THEME?

THERE'S SOMETHING ODD ABOUT ALL THIS? DICK, SET UP THE RECORDING MACHINE- I WANT TO GET THE REST OF THIS BROADCAST DOWN ON WAX SO WE CAN STUDY IT IN THE BATCAVE?

LATER, IN THE BATCAVE CRIME LAB...



THIS SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT OF "WOODY THE WOODPECKER" IS DEDICATED AGAIN TO MY FRIEND, MR. MORSE...



I'VE GOT IT! I THOUGHT THOSE INSISTENT REFERENCES TO MR. MORSE HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE MORSE CODE! YOU SEE, ROBIN? KYSER HAS BEEN SENDING AN SOS!



KYSER'S APPARENTLY IN TROUBLE AND BEING WATCHED VERY CLOSELY, OR ELSE HE'D CALL IN THE POLICE! WE'LL HAVE TO INVESTIGATE, BUT VERY CAUTIOUSLY!



PRESENTLY, AS THE POWERFUL BATMOBILE ROARS THROUGH THE STREETS OF GOTHAM CITY...

HE'S PUTTING ON AN IMPROMPTU COLLEGE OF MUSICAL KNOWLEDGE TONIGHT, BATMAN, AT THE FIREMEN'S BALL!

I'LL CHECK WITH HIS PRESS AGENT TO SEE IF WE CAN'T BECOME PART OF THE SHOW! IN THAT WAY, WE WON'T AROUSE ANY SUSPICION...



MEANWHILE, IN A BACKSTAGE DRESSING ROOM AT THE FIREMEN'S BALL...

...AND AS A RESULT OF THE NEW VISTAS OF THE SKY OPENED BY THE FIRST OPERATION OF THE GIANT TELESCOPE, THE GOTHAM PLANETARIUM WILL BE REMODELED...

THE PLANETARIUM THAT'S WHERE THE LOOT IS, HIDDEN IN THE ROOF! SOMEBODY MAY STUMBLE ON IT NOW!



I CAN'T LEAVE NOW—KYSER'S BEEN ACTIN' FUNNY LATELY—GOT TO WATCH HIM! I'LL GET BUGGSY DOLAN OVER HERE AND SOMEHOW SLIP HIM THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE MONEY! I CAN TRUST BUGGSY!

THEN, CORNERING, KAY KYSER IN HIS DRESSING ROOM...

LISTEN, PALLY— I GOT A JOB FOR YOU! ONE OF MY BOYS'LL BE HERE SOON— I'LL POINT HIM OUT! I WANT YOU TO GET HIM UP ON THE STAGE AS A CONTESTANT?

A CONTESTANT? WHY?

WHEN HE WINS THE PRIZE, YOU HAND HIM THIS ENVELOPE! CALL IT A SPECIAL SURPRISE GIFT! AND NO FUNNY BUSINESS— I'LL BE WATCHIN' YOU!

MEANWHILE, THE **DYNAMIC DUO** PLANS STRATEGY OF A DIFFERENT SORT...

IT'S ALL FIXED! I'M GOING UP AS A CONTESTANT— IT'LL LOOK LIKE A PUBLICITY STUNT! YOU STAY HERE AND SEE WHAT YOU CAN FIND!

EXIT

THAT'S MY MAN— NOW YOU DO THE REST!

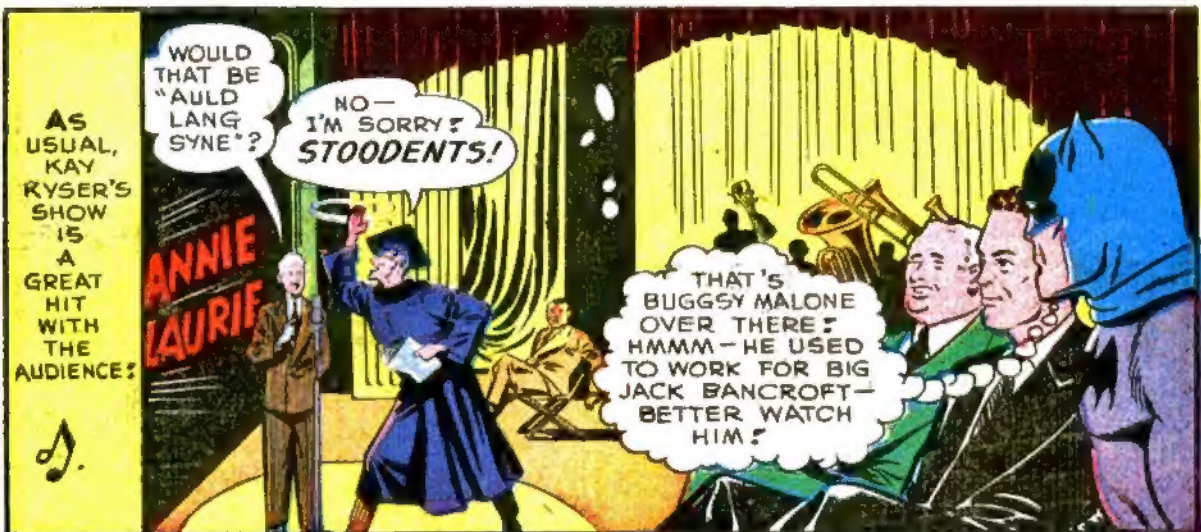
SUDDENLY, A TREMENDOUS ROAR FLOODS THE BALLROOM...

BATMAN! WELCOME TO THE COLLEGE OF MUSICAL KNOWLEDGE!

THANKS, PROFESSOR KYSER— I HOPE TO BE A RESPONSIVE STUDENT!

HEY, BATMAN, ARE YOU HEP?

ATTABOY, BATMAN— TURN IT ON!



GROPING DESPERATELY FOR THE RIGHT ANSWER, **BATMAN** SUDDENLY HEARS A FAINT SIGNAL ON HIS BELT RADIO!

GOOD OLD **ROBIN** TO THE RESCUE...

DID YOU SAY SOMETHING, **BATMAN**?

WRONG - IT'S A TROMBONE...

WRONG! IT'S A TROMBONE!

THAT'S WRONG! YOU'RE RIGHT!

AND AGAIN...

TRUE!

YOU'RE RIGHT! THAT'S RIGHT!

THAT'S TRUE - BE-BOP IS THE NEWEST FORM OF SWING MUSIC...

WITH **ROBIN'S** HELP, **BATMAN** SCORES 100%, WHILE **BUGGSY** MISSES THE LAST QUESTION...

THAT'S FALSE...

THAT'S RIGHT! YOU'RE WRONG!

CONGRATULATIONS, **BATMAN**! AND HERE'S THE SPECIAL PRIZE DONATED BY OUR SAXOPHONIST, **EDDIE BLINN**!

HEY - WHERE'S **EDDIE**?

HE JUST TOOK A POWDER!

THE NEXT INSTANT, A FRANTIC **KYSER HUDDLES** WITH **BATMAN**...

OPEN THE ENVELOPE QUICKLY, **BATMAN** - THAT SAXOPHONIST WAS REALLY **BIG JACK BANCROFT** AND HE WAS TRYING TO GET A MESSAGE OUT OF HERE!

IN KYSER'S DRESSING ROOM, **BATMAN, ROBIN** AND KYSER LOOK AT THE MESSAGE TAKEN FROM THE ENVELOPE?

BIG JACK HID HIS LOOT IN THE ROOF OF THE PLANETARIUM? THEN THAT'S WHERE HE'S PROBABLY HEADED RIGHT NOW! LET'S GET MOVING!

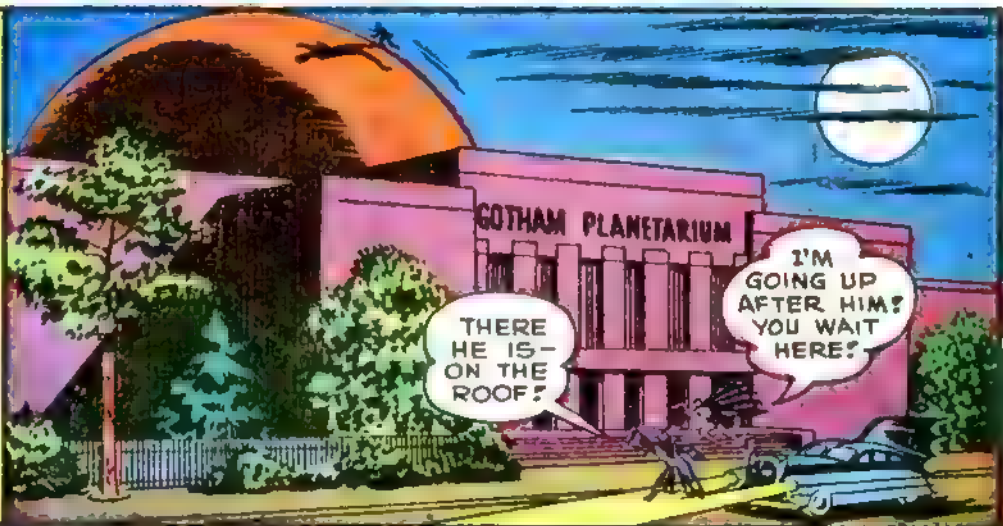
BUT WE'VE GOT TO SAVE THE REAL EDDIE BLINN FIRST! I KNOW JUST WHERE THEY'RE HOLDING HIM!

NO TIME FOR THAT— UNLESS... **ROBIN**— DO YOU THINK YOU CAN HANDLE IT?

YOU BET? WHAT'S THE ADDRESS, KAY?



WHILE THE BOY WONDER SPEEDS FORTH ON HIS MISSION, **BATMAN** AND **KAY KYSER** RUSH TO THE PLANETARIUM IN THE **BATMOBILE!**



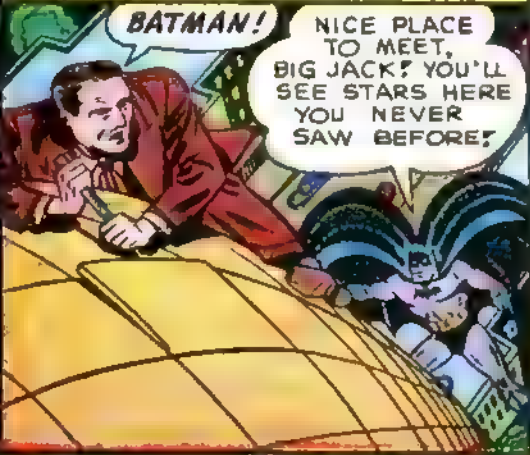
THERE HE IS— ON THE ROOF!

I'M GOING UP AFTER HIM! YOU WAIT HERE!

LIKE GREASED LIGHTNING, THE AGILE **BATMAN** SCALES THE ROOF AND CLOSSES WITH HIS PREY!

BATMAN!

NICE PLACE TO MEET, **BIG JACK**? YOU'LL SEE STARS HERE YOU NEVER SAW BEFORE?

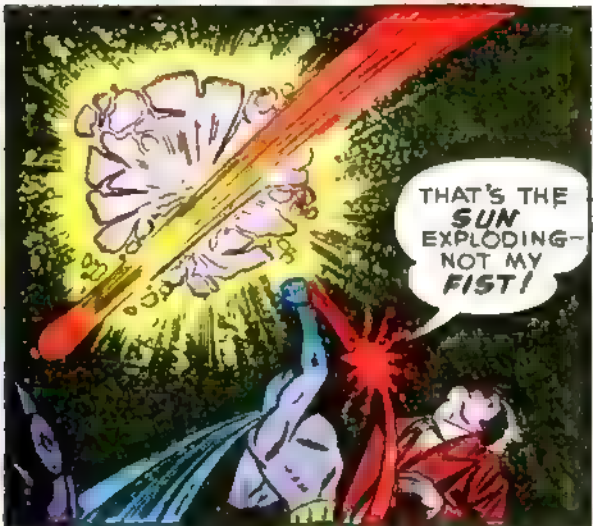
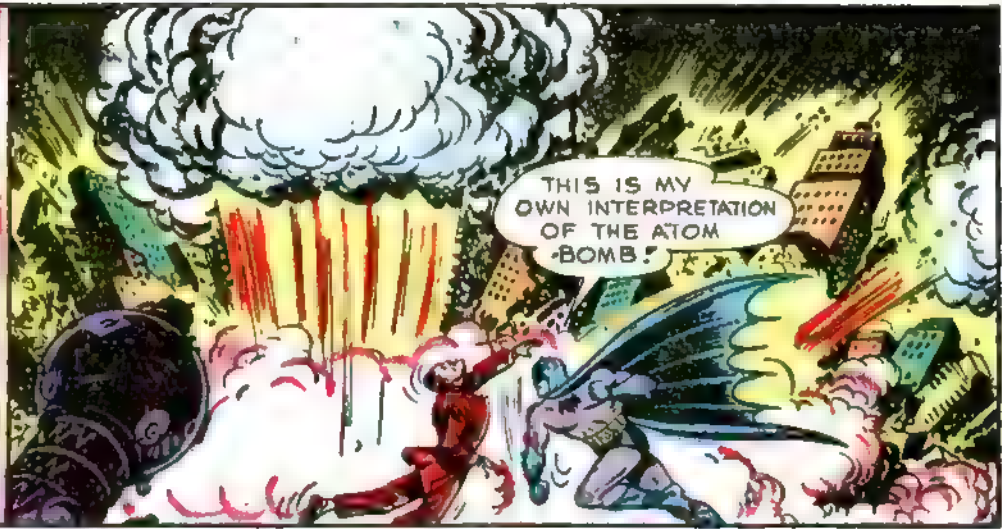


FLEEING THROUGH A TRAP DOOR IN THE ROOF, **BIG JACK** SEEKS REFUGE IN THE DARKENED AUDITORIUM...

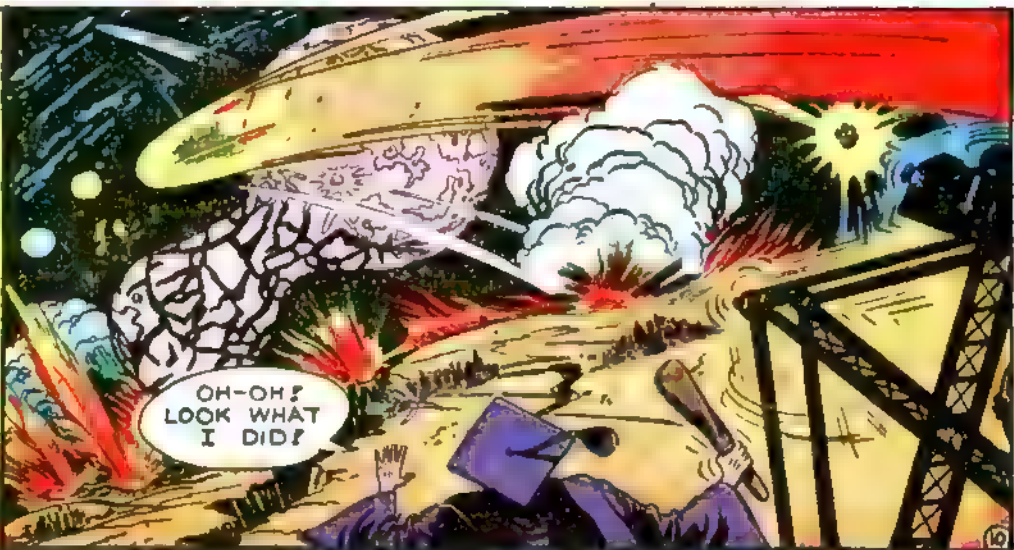
LET'S JUST SWITCH ON THIS PROJECTOR AND GET A LITTLE LIGHT ON THE SUBJECT!



AS THE PROJECTOR FLASHES ON, THE PLANETARIUM BURSTS INTO THE VIVID DRAMA OF THE PREDICTED WAYS THE WORLD CAN COME TO AN END!



BUT IN HIS EXCITEMENT, THE FAMOUS BANDLEADER JARS THE PROJECTOR AND THE MACHINE RUNS CRAZILY...



THEN, JUST AS KYSER AIMS A BLOW AT BIG JACK, THE PROJECTOR STOPS ABRUPTLY, AND...

I GOT HIM, BATMAN!

SUDDENLY, THE HOUSE LIGHTS GO ON?

JUMPIN' CATFISH? I HIT BATMAN!

THANKS, PALLY, FOR SAVING ME A HARD DAY'S WORK?

QUICKLY EXPLOITING HIS STROKE OF LUCK, THE GANGSTER HERDS KAY AND BATMAN TO A SECRET HIDEOUT, WHERE...

MY OWN LITTLE DEATH CHAMBER, PALLIES? WHEN I SHUT THIS DOOR, THIS PLACE IS SEALED TIGHT! THEN I JUST TURN ON THE GAS IN THAT LITTLE PIPE UP THERE AND IT'S ALL OVER IN A FEW MINUTES!

HERE'S A CLARINET, PALLY! GO AHEAD AND PLAY A FUNERAL MARCH! ME-I'M GETTIN' ON THE FIRST PLANE TO MEXICO!

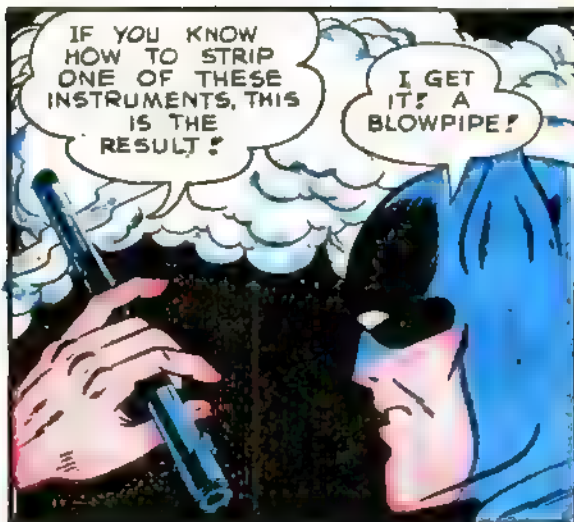
MOMENTS AFTER THE DOOR SLAMS, THE PIPE IN THE CEILING STARTS TO HISS OMINOUSLY!

EVEN IF I CALLED ROBIN ON THE RADIO, HE'D NEVER GET HERE IN TIME-AND THAT PIPE IS TOO HIGH FOR YOU AND ME TO HANDLE...

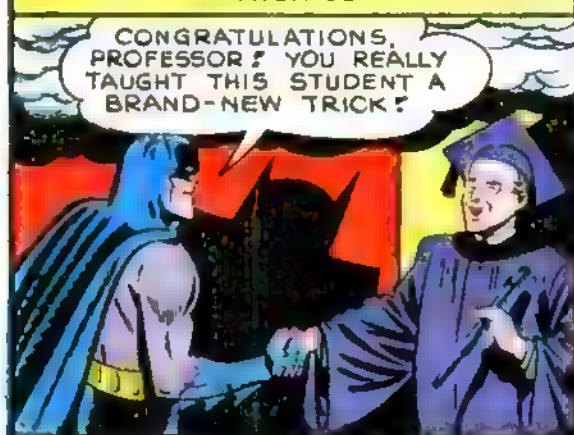
WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH THAT CLARINET?

I GOT YOU INTO THIS, BATMAN -AND BY JIMINY, I'M GOING TO DO MY BEST TO GET YOU OUT!

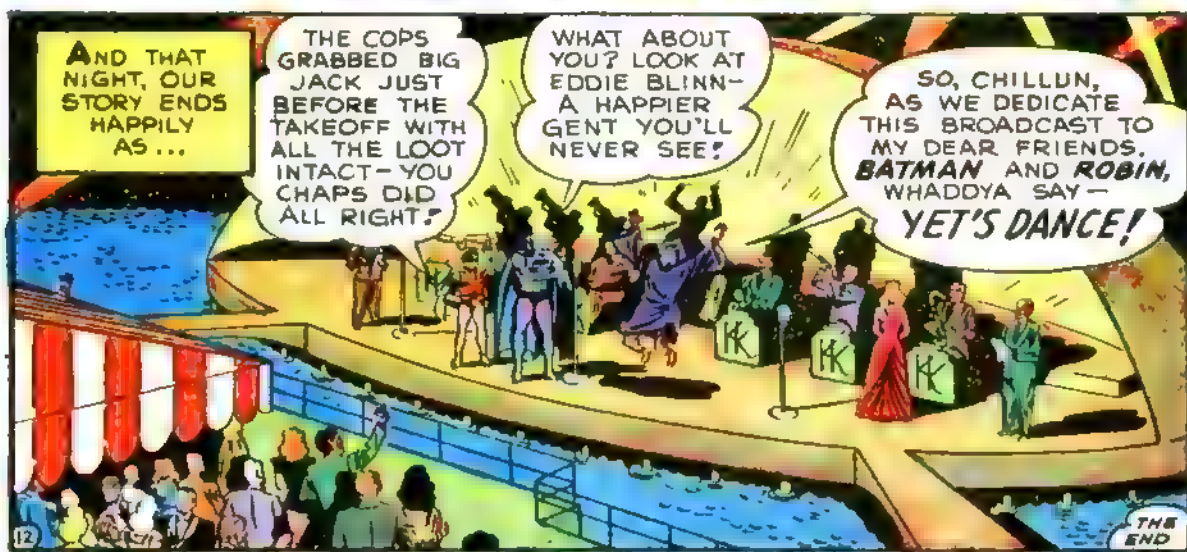
WAIT A MINUTE! LOOK-ON THE FLOOR! PUTTY-THE PUTTY HE MUST HAVE USED TO SEAL UP THIS PLACE... HMMM-I WONDER...



IN A MATTER OF MOMENTS, THE PIPE IS SEALED AND THE TRAGEDY AVERTED?



AS **BATMAN** WATCHES IN ADMIRATION, KAY PEPPERS THE OPEN TUBE WITH A VOLLEY OF WELL-AIMED PUTTY!



BOYS! GIRLS!

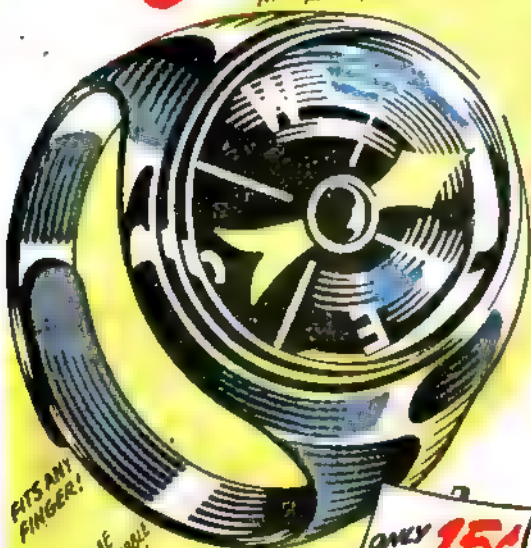
MAGNETIZED NEEDLE
ALWAYS POINTS
NORTH!



HURRY! BE THE FIRST TO AMAZE
YOUR GANG WITH A GENUINE MAGNETIC

NAVIGATOR'S COMPASS RING!

REAL MAGNETIC NEEDLE
—ALWAYS POINTS NORTH!



FITS ANY
FINGER!

PLASTIC DOME
LIKE NAVIGATORS BUBBLE
ON BIG PLANE!

GENUINE
NICKEL-PLATED
WONT TARNISH!

ONLY **15¢**
plus front of one
SMITH BROS
box



You really know where you're going when you wear a GENUINE MAGNETIC NAVIGATOR'S COMPASS RING. A real scientific instrument, with a magnetized needle that always points to the North Magnetic Pole! You just turn the ring around so the "N" is under the needle—and you know just where all the other directions are too! That's how navigators have been doing it on ships for hundreds of years.

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HEY NID! THERES A LIGHT
FLASHING OUT THERE!
LOOKS LIKE AN S O S!



SEE? THREE SHORT -
THREE LONG THREE SHORT!
AND MY COMPASS RING
SAYS ITS EAST-NORTHEAST!

AND THE LIGHT-
HOUSE BEARS
SOUTHWEST!
'COME ON! WEVE
GOT TO PHONE THE
COAST GUARD!

MEANWHILE
OUT AT SEA



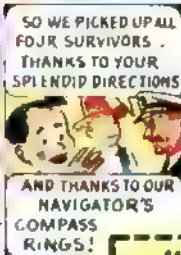
LATER: (IN A NEARBY
FARMHOUSE)

THATS RIGHT COMMANDER
THE S O S CAME FROM
EAST NORTHEAST AND
THE LIGHTHOUSE WAS
SOUTHWEST OF US!



HERE SHE COMES! THE
COAST GUARD HELICOPTER!

BOY! WATCH HER HEAD
EAST-NORTHEAST AS SOON
AS SHE GETS OVERHEAD!



SO WE PICKED UP ALL
FOUR SURVIVORS -
THANKS TO YOUR
SPLENDID DIRECTIONS

AND THANKS TO OUR
NAVIGATOR'S
COMPASS
RINGS!



GREAT FOR HIKES! Especially in
the woods, when snow covers
your tracks. Always wear it!

FISHING WITH DAD! You be navi-
gator - tell others how to get
back if a fog comes up!



WHEN A PLANE GOES BY - Figure out its
course, tell what city it's headed for.

WONDERFUL FUN - all year 'round!



HERE'S ALL YOU DO—Just send front of Smith
Brothers Cough Drops box—Black or Menthol—and 15¢
in coin—with coupon at right. That's the only way you
can get your Navigator's Compass Ring. We'll rush it
to you—right away. So hurry! Write to Smith Brothers,
P.O. Box #368, Providence, Rhode Island.

MAIL THIS COUPON NOW!

SMITH BROTHERS, P.O. Box 368, Providence, R. I.
Enclosed find front of Smith Brothers Cough Drop
box plus 15¢. Rush my ring to me at once

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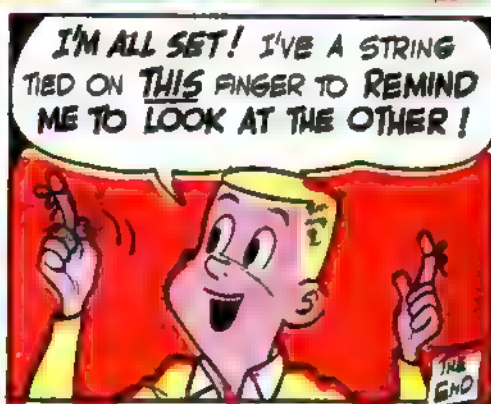
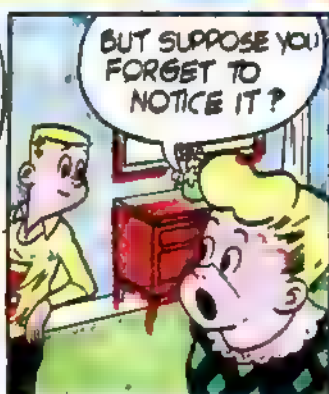
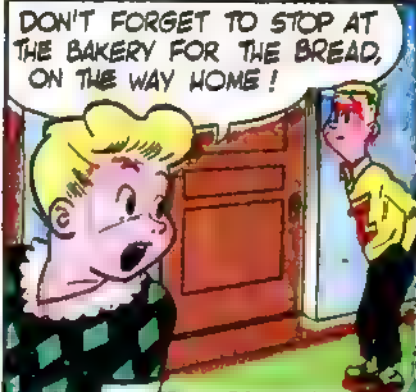
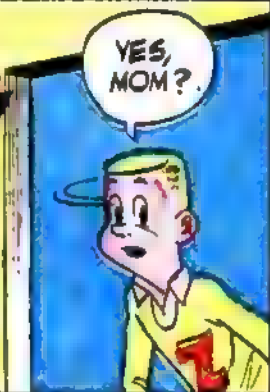
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LIMITED TIME ONLY!
This offer expires at midnight, June 30, 1949. HURRY!

JERRY

THE JITTERBUG

Henry
Boltzoff



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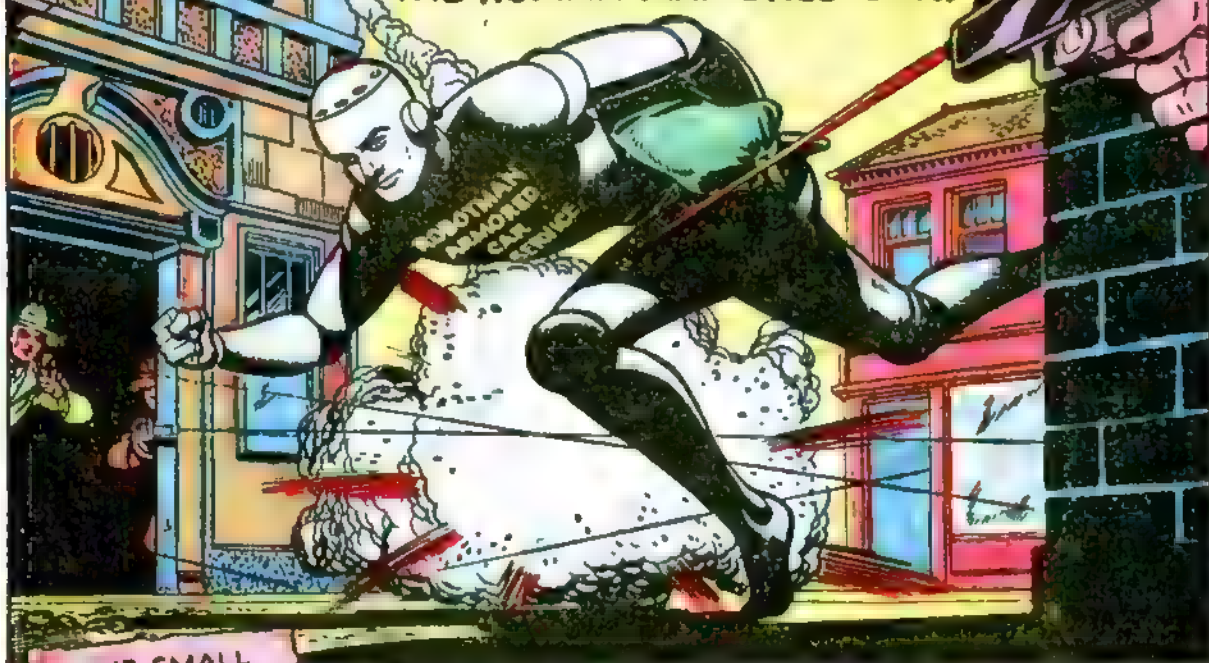
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ROBOTMAN

THERE ARE MANY UNSUNG HEROES OF PEACE-TIME, BUT NONE BRAVER THAN THE MEN WHO OPERATE ARMORED CARS DELIVERING VALUABLES THROUGH HAZARDOUS PATHS BESET BY GREEDY CRIMINALS! WHEN ONE MASTER THIEF PLAGUES THE ROUTE, LOOTING RUTHLESSLY, ROBOTMAN TAKES OVER! THE MAN OF METAL SEES THAT THE GOODS ARE DELIVERED BY PLAYING HIS STRANGEST

ROLE AS...

"THE HUMAN ARMORED CAR!"

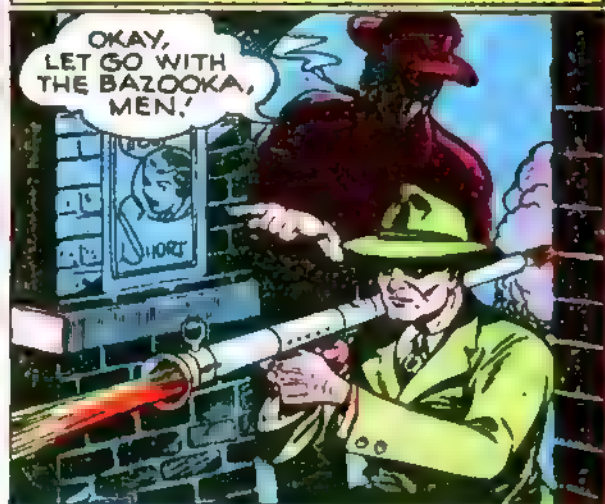
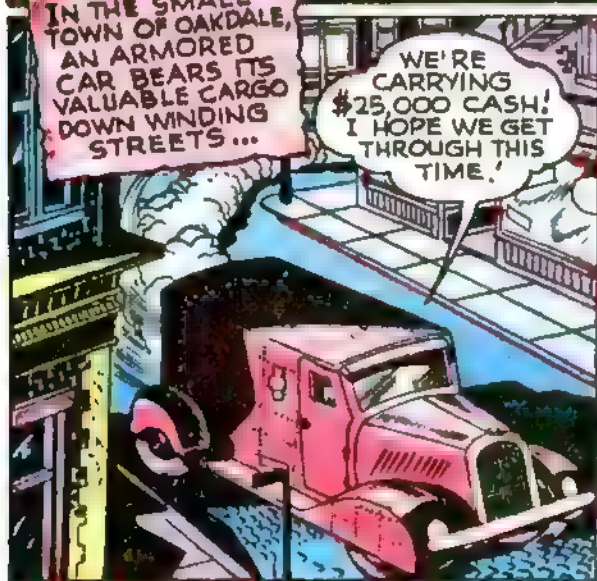


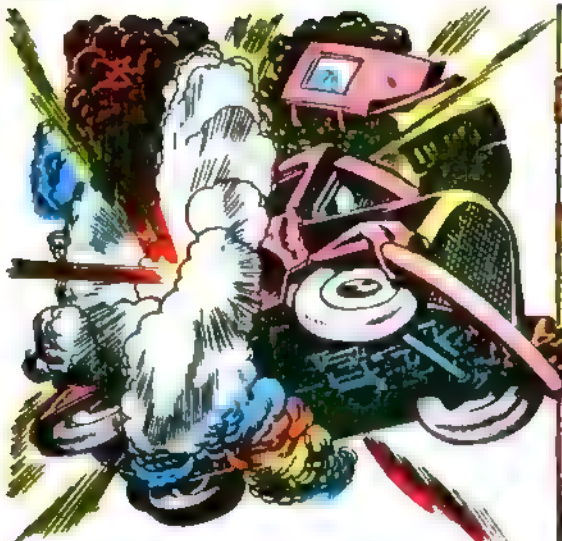
IN THE SMALL TOWN OF OAKDALE, AN ARMORED CAR BEARS ITS VALUABLE CARGO DOWN WINDING STREETS...

WE'RE CARRYING \$25,000 CASH! I HOPE WE GET THROUGH THIS TIME!

BUT LURKING IN ITS PATH IS A BIG CITY OPERATOR IN CRIME... CRUSHER COLE...

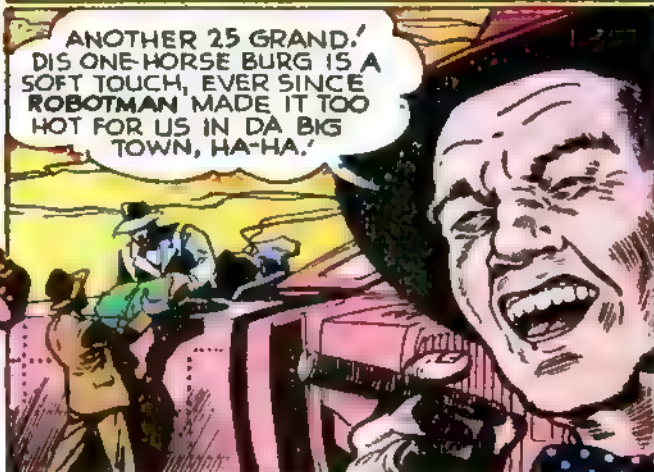
OKAY, LET GO WITH THE BAZOOKA, MEN!





STUNNED, THE TWO ARMED DRIVERS CAN OFFER NO RESISTANCE TO THE BANDITS!

ANOTHER 25 GRAND! DIS ONE-HORSE BURG IS A SOFT TOUCH, EVER SINCE ROBOTMAN MADE IT TOO HOT FOR US IN DA BIG TOWN, HA-HA.



BUT THERE IS A WITNESS TO THE BOLD DEED... ROBOTMAN IN HIS PLASTIC DISGUISE OF PAUL DENNIS...

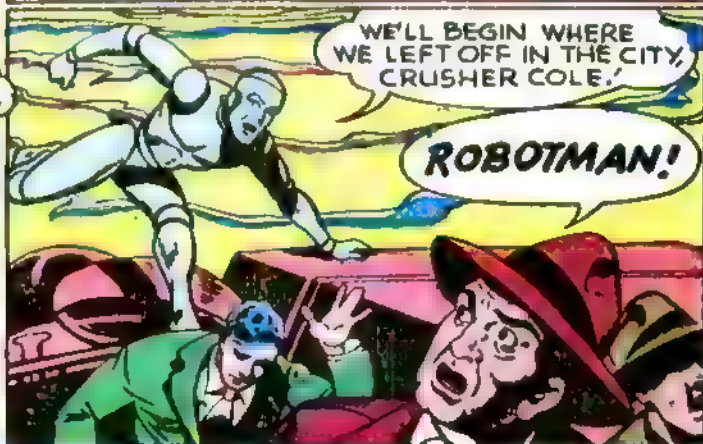
I HAD A POLICE TIP THAT CRUSHER COLE MIGHT BE HERE, AFTER I LOST HIS TRAIL IN THE CITY!



A SWIFT REMOVAL OF PLASTIC DISGUISE AND CLOTHING, AND THE MIGHTY MAN OF METAL OPPOSES THE CRIME!

WE'LL BEGIN WHERE WE LEFT OFF IN THE CITY, CRUSHER COLE!

ROBOTMAN!

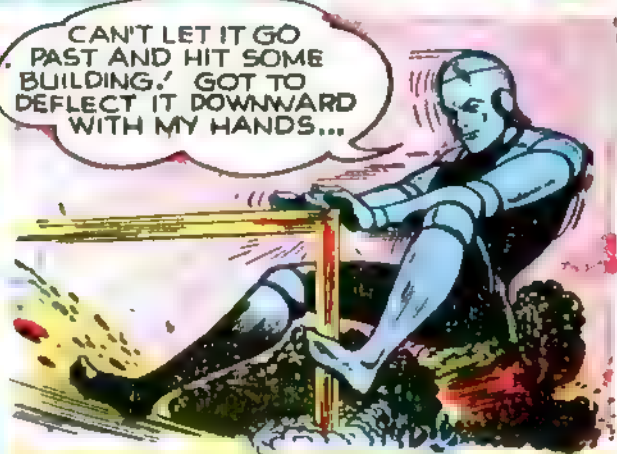


REACHING HIS BAZOOKA, COLE FIRES!

CATCH, ROBOTMAN! HA, HA!



CAN'T LET IT GO PAST AND HIT SOME BUILDING! GOT TO DEFLECT IT DOWNWARD WITH MY HANDS...



BUT THE RESULTING EXPLOSION HURLS ROBOTMAN BACK, AND COVERS THE ESCAPE OF THE CROOKS...

LATER, AFTER THE TWO DAZED DRIVERS
HAVE RECOVERED...

THANKS FOR TRYING
TO HELP US, ROBOTMAN!
BUT THAT'S THE THIRD
TIME WE'VE BEEN HELD
UP AND ROBBED.
WE'LL HAVE TO GO
OUT OF BUSINESS
NOW.

EX-
G.I.'S?

YES! BUD GREEN AND MY PAL, TIM
'DRAKE,' OUR TOWN NEEDED AN
ARMORED CAR SERVICE, SO WE STARTED
ONE UP! BUT THREE HEAVY LOSSES
IN A ROW COOK
OUR GOOSE!

LET'S GET TO
YOUR GARAGE AND
WORK OUT A PLAN
I'VE GOT IN
MIND!

LOOK - HE'S
PUSHING THE TRUCK
BACK ON ITS WHEELS!

LATER, AT
THEIR GARAGE.

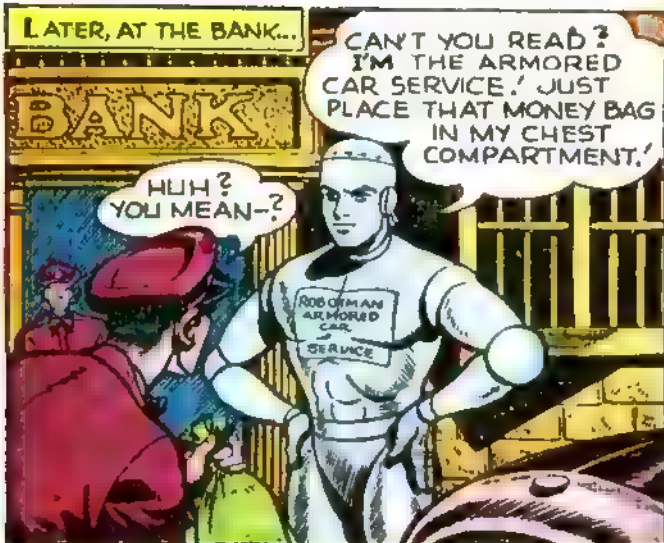
STRIP IT DOWN TO
THE ENGINE AND
CHASSIS, WHILE I
WORK ON MYSELF.

AFTER
WORKING
ALL NIGHT

A
STRANGE
SIGHT
EMERGES
INTO
DAYLIGHT!

I GUESS YOU COULD
CALL ME THE HUMAN ARMORED
CAR! I'LL HANDLE YOUR
NEXT ASSIGNMENT, PICKING
UP A MONEY SHIPMENT
AT THE BANK, SO
LONG.

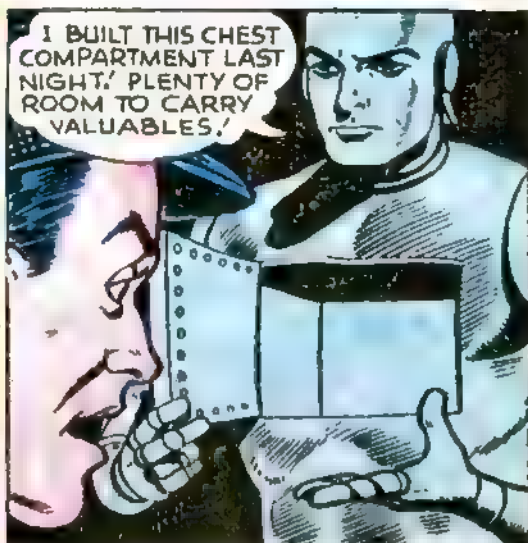
LATER, AT THE BANK...



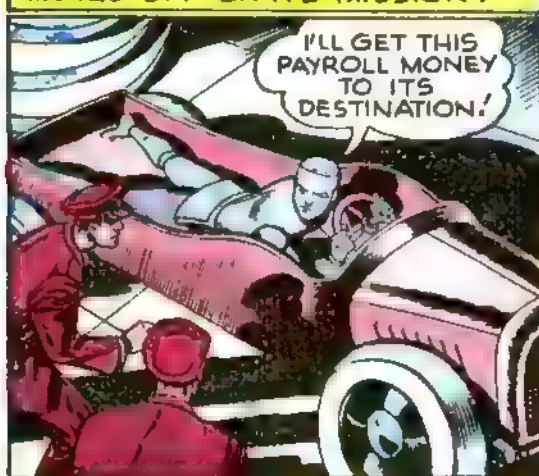
HUH?
YOU MEAN-?

CAN'T YOU READ?
I'M THE ARMORED
CAR SERVICE! JUST
PLACE THAT MONEY BAG
IN MY CHEST
COMPARTMENT!

I BUILT THIS CHEST
COMPARTMENT LAST
NIGHT! PLENTY OF
ROOM TO CARRY
VALUABLES!

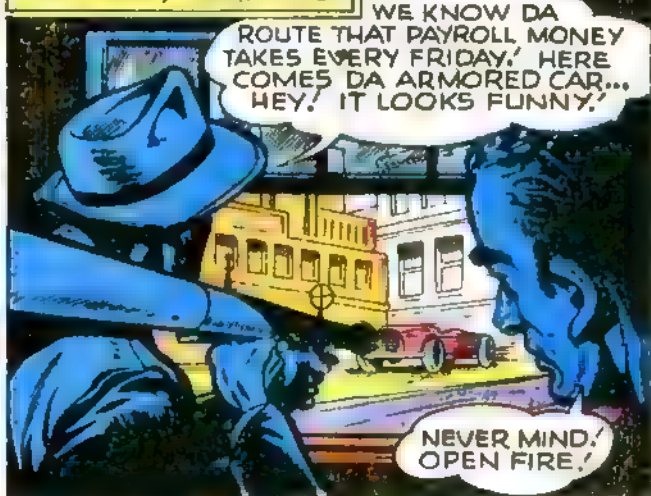


AND THE HUMAN ARMORED CAR
MOVES OFF ON ITS MISSION!



I'LL GET THIS
PAYROLL MONEY
TO ITS
DESTINATION!

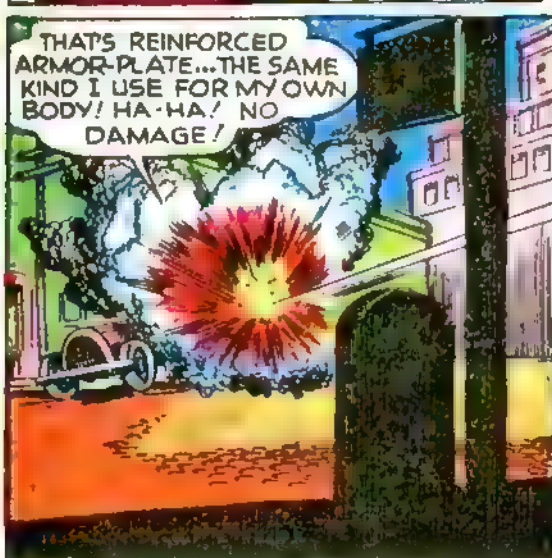
BUT AHEAD, MEANWHILE...



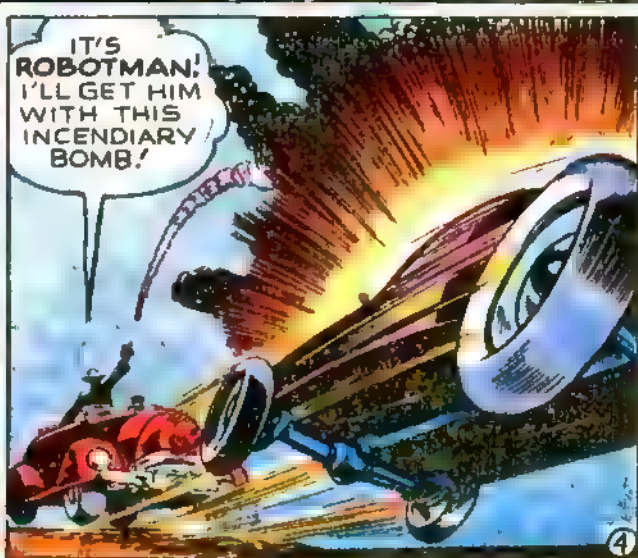
WE KNOW DA
ROUTE THAT PAYROLL MONEY
TAKES EVERY FRIDAY! HERE
COMES DA ARMORED CAR...
HEY! IT LOOKS FUNNY!

NEVER MIND!
OPEN FIRE!

THAT'S REINFORCED
ARMOR-PLATE...THE SAME
KIND I USE FOR MY OWN
BODY! HA-HA! NO
DAMAGE!

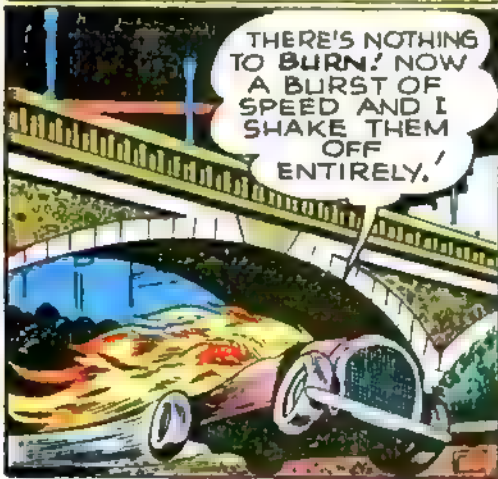


IT'S
ROBOTMAN!
I'LL GET HIM
WITH THIS
INCENDIARY
BOMB!



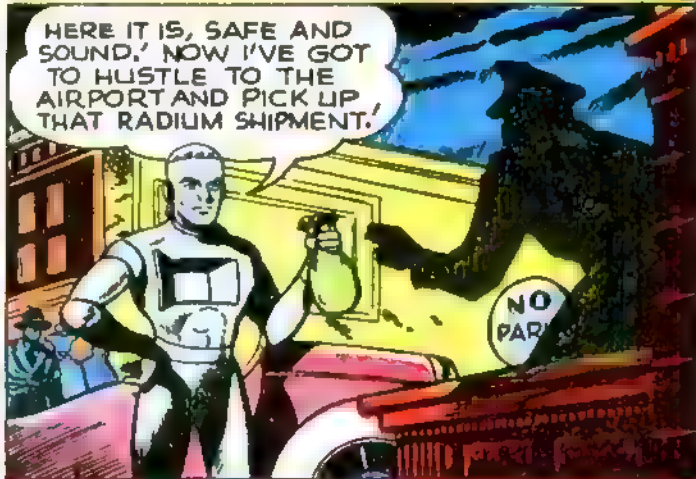
BUT THE METAL MAN CAN LAUGH AT FLAMES, TOO.

THERE'S NOTHING TO BURN! NOW A BURST OF SPEED AND I SHAKE THEM OFF ENTIRELY!



THE HUMAN ARMORED CAR DELIVERS THE GOODS.

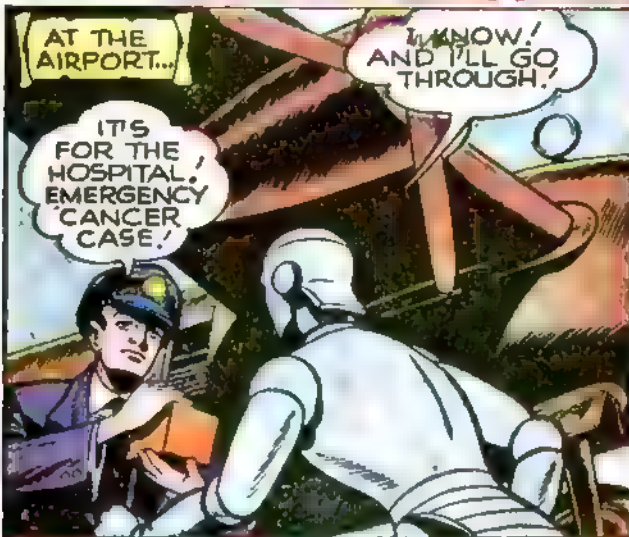
HERE IT IS, SAFE AND SOUND. NOW I'VE GOT TO HUSTLE TO THE AIRPORT AND PICK UP THAT RADIUM SHIPMENT.



AT THE AIRPORT...

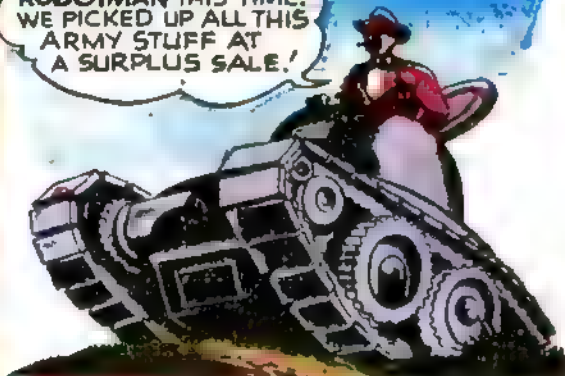
I KNOW! AND I'LL GO THROUGH!

IT'S FOR THE HOSPITAL! EMERGENCY CANCER CASE!

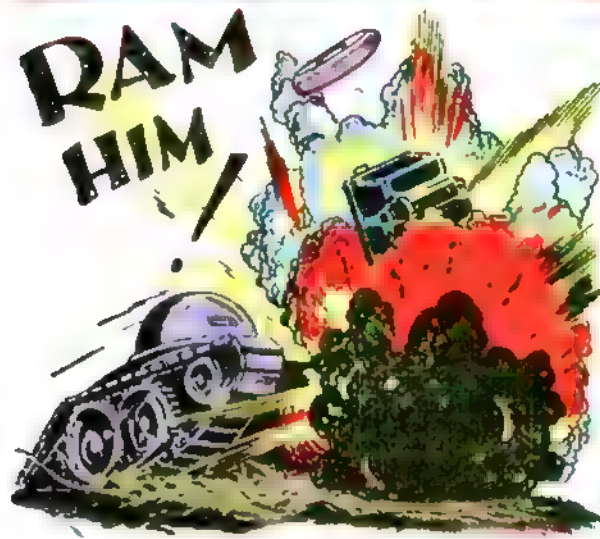


BUT CRUSHER COLE AGAIN WAITS IN AMBUSH, WITH A STILL MORE DEADLY INSTRUMENT OF DESTRUCTION!

WE'LL STOP ROBOTMAN THIS TIME! WE PICKED UP ALL THIS ARMY STUFF AT A SURPLUS SALE!

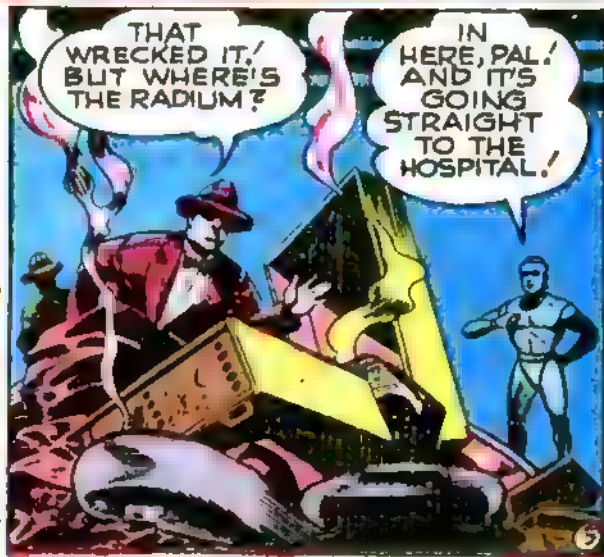


RAM HIM!



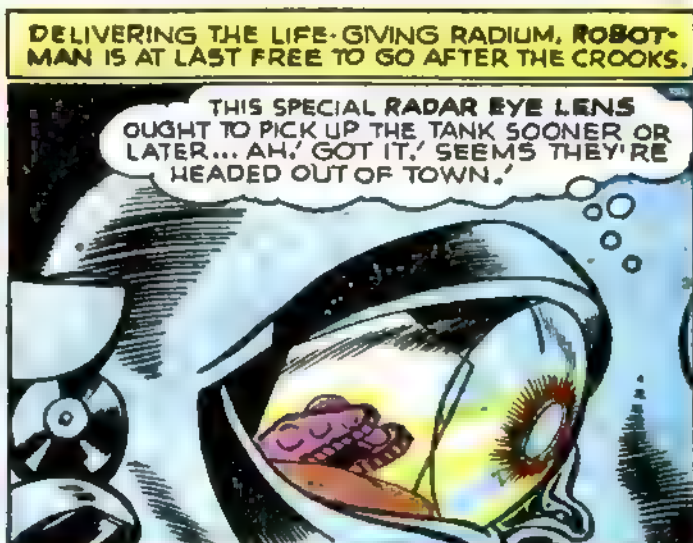
THAT WRECKED IT! BUT WHERE'S THE RADIUM?

IN HERE, PAL! AND IT'S GOING STRAIGHT TO THE HOSPITAL!





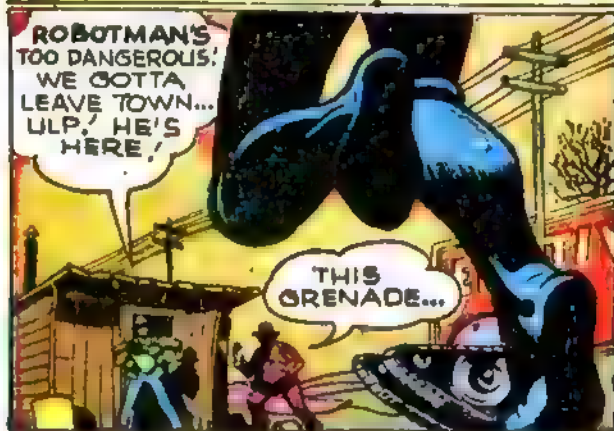
I CAN MAKE IT ALMOST AS FAST ON FOOT!



DELIVERING THE LIFE-GIVING RADIUM, ROBOT-MAN IS AT LAST FREE TO GO AFTER THE CROOKS.

THIS SPECIAL RADAR EYE LENS OUGHT TO PICK UP THE TANK SOONER OR LATER... AH, GOT IT! SEEMS THEY'RE HEADED OUT OF TOWN.

THE RADAR TRAIL LEADS TO A SHACK WHERE COWARDLY CRIMINAL HEARTS ARE GRIPPED BY FEAR AS A METAL NEMESIS APPEARS!



ROBOTMAN'S TOO DANGEROUS! WE GOTTA LEAVE TOWN... ULP, HE'S HERE!

THIS GRENADE...



MY SPECIAL TELESCOPING ARM WILL RELIEVE YOU OF THAT NASTY OBJECT, COLE!



RESERVATIONS ARE ALL ARRANGED IN THE LOCAL JAIL!



LATER, IN TOWN...

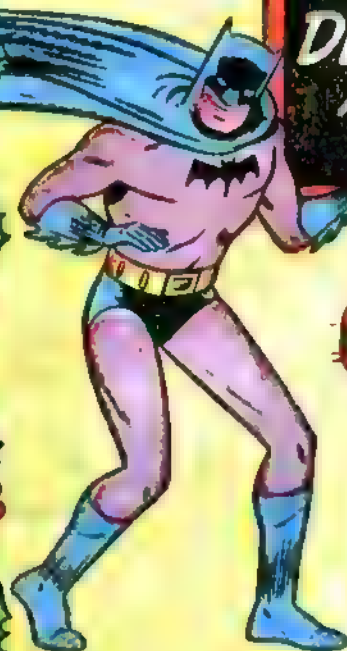
COMPLIMENTS OF THE ROBOTMAN ARMORED CAR SERVICE.

THE STOLEN LOOT! THAT CANCELS ALL OUR LOSSES! WE'RE BACK IN BUSINESS!

THE END

FOR THIS MONTH ONLY!

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO
DETECTIVE COMICS
ARE BEING OFFERED AT A
NEW LOW RATE!



12
SMASH ISSUES
FOR ONLY
\$1.20
FOREIGN SUBSCRIPTIONS \$3.00
IN AMERICAN FUNDS

GET THE NEXT 12
TERRIFIC ISSUES
AS THEY ROLL HOT OFF THE PRESSES
MAILED DIRECTLY TO YOU!

Happy

NEW YEAR!

DON'T KEEP THE GOOD
NEWS A SECRET....
TELL YOUR PARENTS,
FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

MAIL THIS COUPON NOW!

DETECTIVE COMICS

400 LEXINGTON AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

ENCLOSED FIND \$1.20 (CASH, MONEY ORDER OR CHECK)

NAME _____
(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

SLAM BRADLEY

SNOW-WHITE SEEMED BEAUTIFUL AND SWEET... BUT WHAT WENT ON AROUND HER SHOULDN'T HAPPEN TO A PAIR OF SLEUTH-HOUNDS... ESPECIALLY SLEUTHS LIKE SLAM BRADLEY AND SHORTY MORGAN! THE LITTLE MEN WHO WERE THERE HAD PLENTY OF TRICKS UP THEIR SHORT SLEEVES... AND SLAM AND SHORTY HAD THEIR HANDS FULL WITH THOSE STUBBY SMALL-SCALE SCOUNDRELS...

"The **SEVEN SINISTER NIDGETS!**"



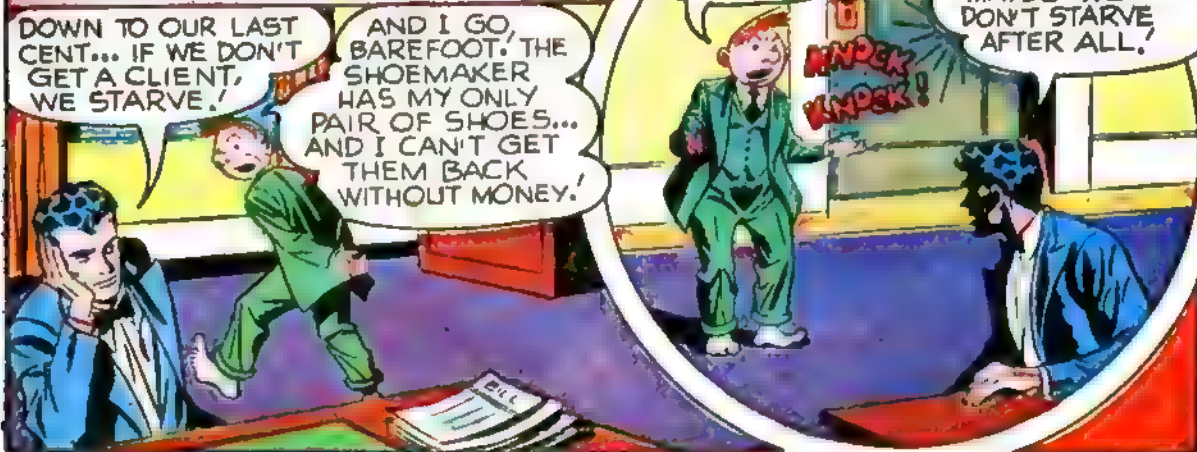
SLAM BRADLEY, DETECTIVE, AND HIS SIDEKICK, SHORTY MORGAN, ARE IN A FIX... AND SHORTY IS LOWER THAN EVER...

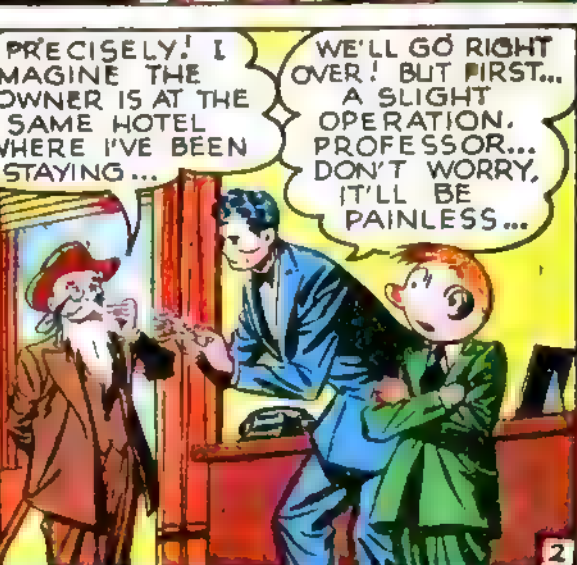
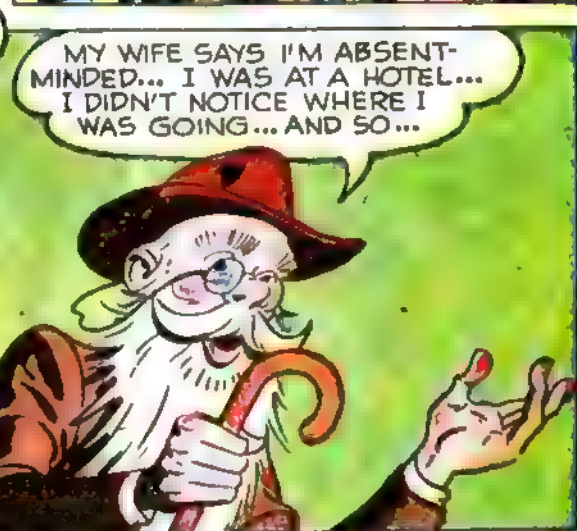
DOWN TO OUR LAST CENT... IF WE DON'T GET A CLIENT, WE STARVE!

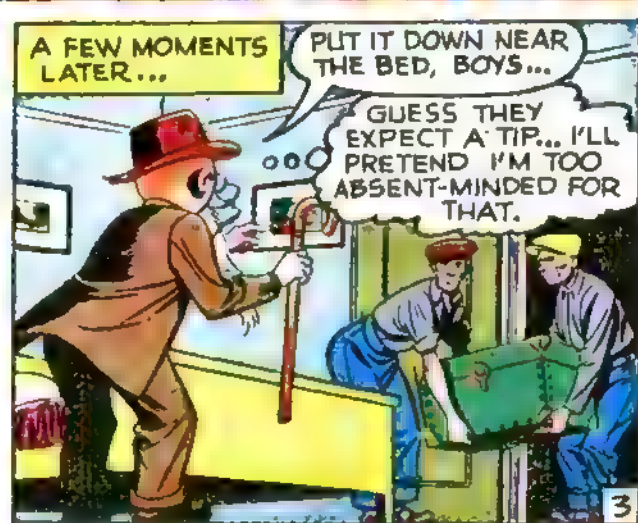
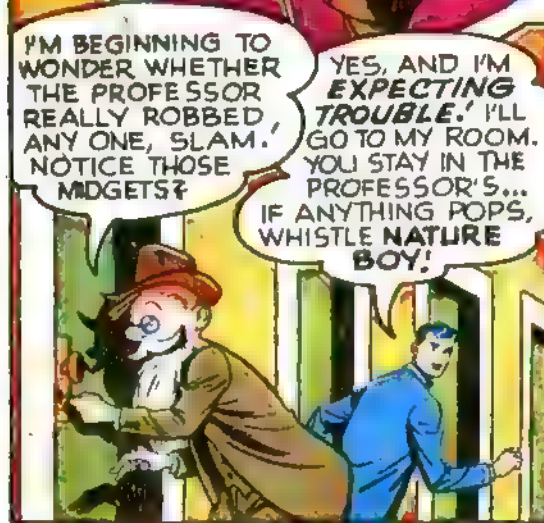
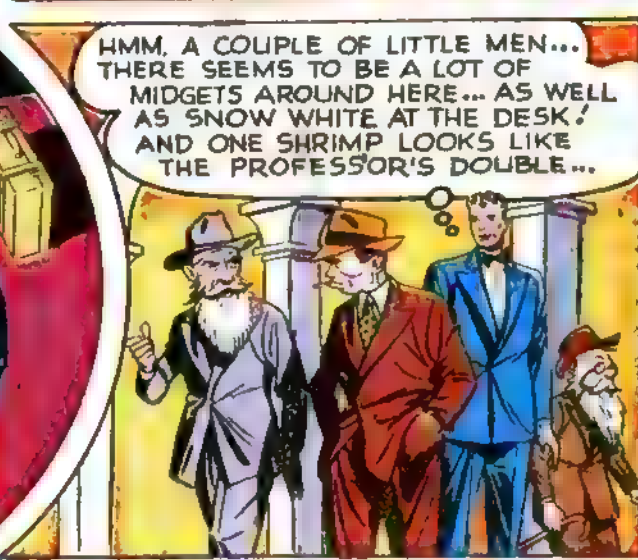
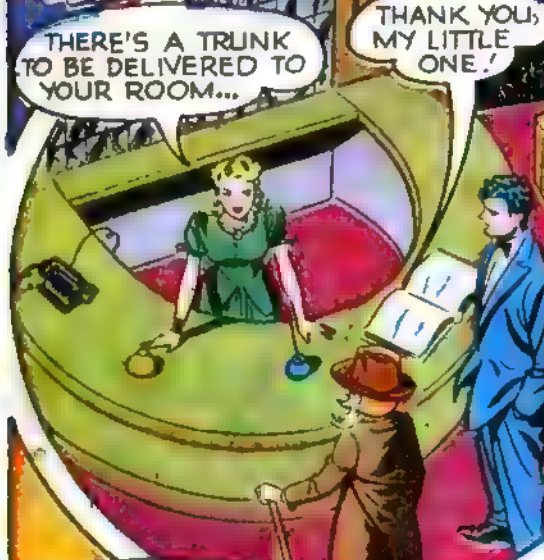
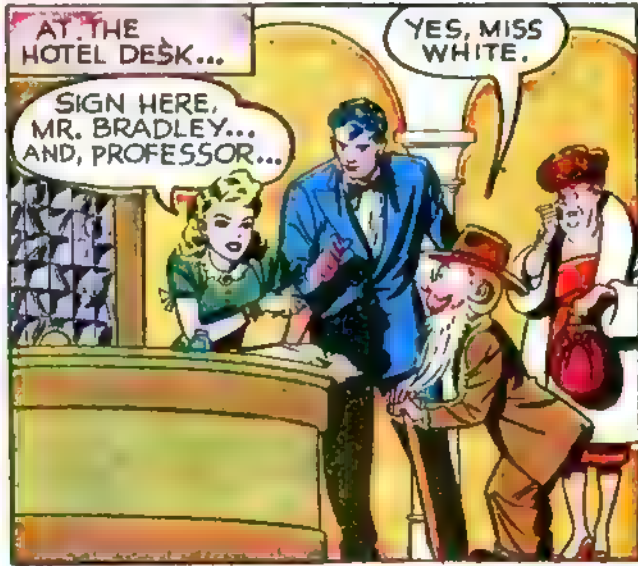
AND I GO, BAREFOOT! THE SHOEMAKER HAS MY ONLY PAIR OF SHOES... AND I CAN'T GET THEM BACK WITHOUT MONEY!

IT'S BAD ENOUGH TO STARVE WITH SHOES ON...

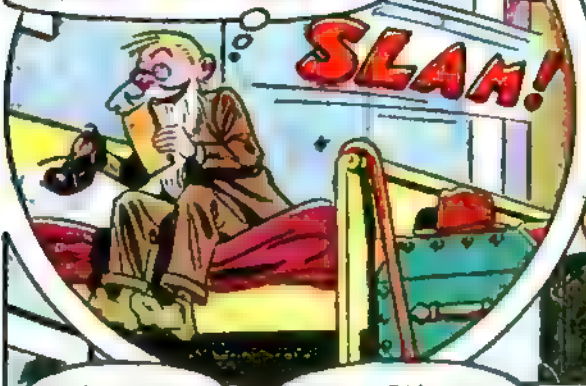
WAIT A MINUTE, SHORT SNOT... MAYBE WE DON'T STARVE AFTER ALL!







THEY DON'T LIKE MY NO-TIPPING POLICY... THEY SHOULD BE AS RICH AS I AM. I THINK I'LL LIE DOWN ON THIS NICE SOFT BED AND TAKE MY MIND OFF MY TROUBLES... I'LL HIDE THE WALLET IN MY SHOE...



BUT AS THE DIMINUTIVE DETECTIVE TAKES THE FIRST OF FORTY WINKS...

COME ON, SOAPY... THE SAPS ASLEEP!

OKAY, NITRO... WE'LL SEE IF WE CAN FIND THAT WALLET!

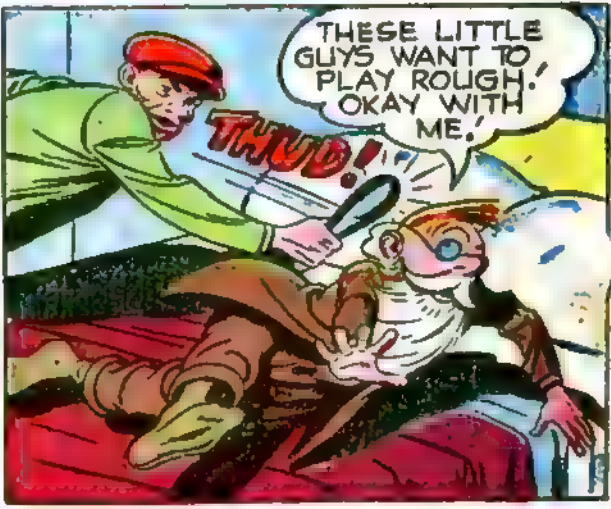


HEY... HOW'D YOU GET IN?

THROUGH THE KEYHOLE, SAP... CAN'T YOU SEE I'M A MIDGET?



THESE LITTLE GUYS WANT TO PLAY ROUGH! OKAY WITH ME!



I'LL POUND YOU DOWN EVEN SHORTER THAN YOU ARE!

YII..!

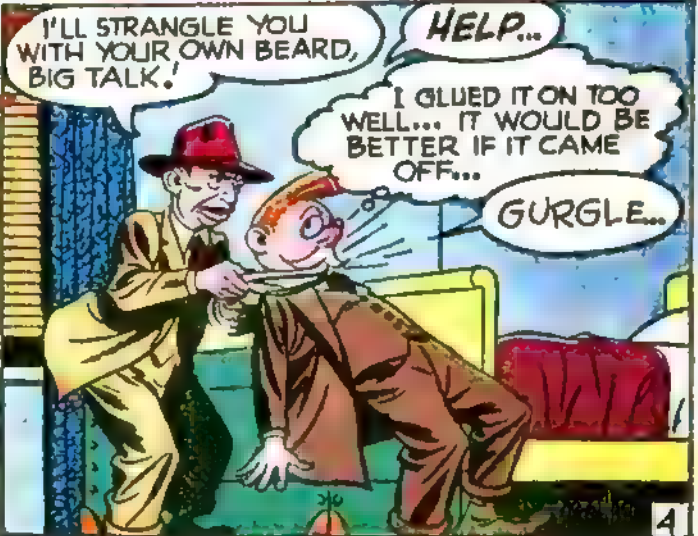


I'LL STRANGLE YOU WITH YOUR OWN BEARD, BIG TALK!

HELP...

I GLUED IT ON TOO WELL... IT WOULD BE BETTER IF IT CAME OFF...

GURGLE...



SHORTLY...

WE CAN'T FIND THE WALLET... AND THE SAP WON'T TALK. WE'VE GOT TO KEEP LOOKING.

HMM, THIS ONE WHISTLES AS HE WORKS! DO YOU KNOW NATURE BOY?

AND DOWN THE HALL...

NATURE BOY... I'D BETTER SEE WHAT'S GOING ON!

LOOK, BUTCH... THIS GUY'S TRYIN' TO BUTT IN.

LET'S STOP HIM, FINGERS!

THESE LITTLE GUYS ARE CRAWLING UNDER FOOT.

YEAH? WE'LL CRAWL ALL OVER YOU, WISE GUY!

SLAM!

LOOK AT THE BIG OAF... SWINGS LIKE A RUSTY GATE.

I NEED A MICROSCOPE TO FIND YOU TWO. WHY DON'T YOU FIGHT SOMEBODY YOUR OWN SIZE?

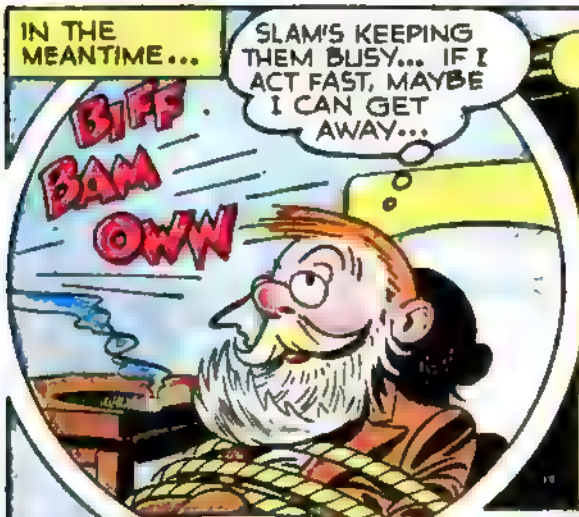
NICE WORK, STIRRY!

YOU HIT HIM HIGH... WE'LL HIT HIM LOW!

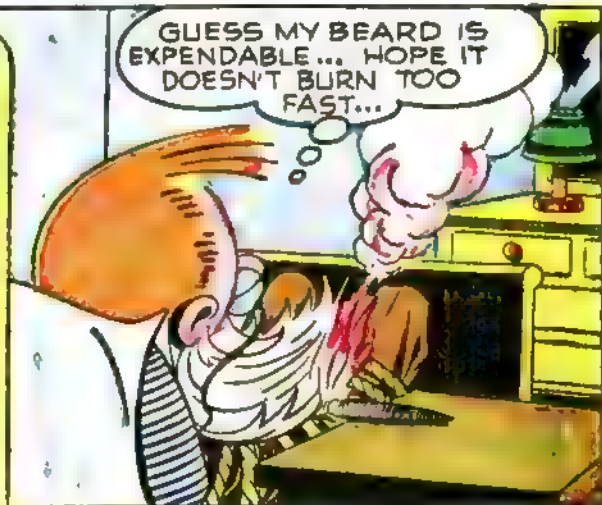
IN THE MEANTIME...

SLAM'S KEEPING THEM BUSY... IF I ACT FAST, MAYBE I CAN GET AWAY...

BIFF
BAM
OWW



GUESS MY BEARD IS EXPENDABLE... HOPE IT DOESN'T BURN TOO FAST...



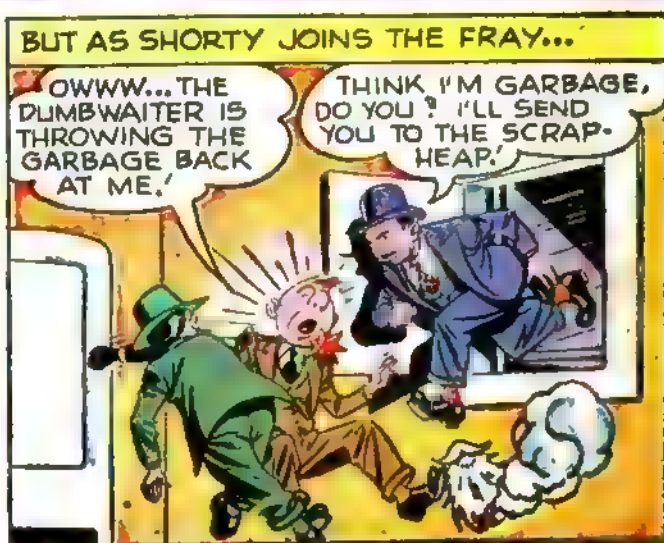
BOY, WILL THOSE MIDGETS BURN UP WHEN THEY SEE ME COMING AFTER THEM.



BUT AS SHORTY JOINS THE FRAY...

OWWW... THE DUMBWAITER IS THROWING THE GARBAGE BACK AT ME.

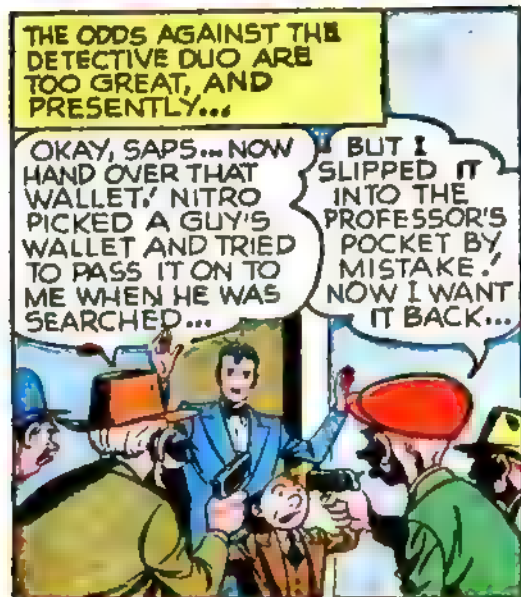
THINK I'M GARBAGE, DO YOU? I'LL SEND YOU TO THE SCRAP-HEAP!



THE ODDS AGAINST THE DETECTIVE DUO ARE TOO GREAT, AND PRESENTLY...

OKAY, SAPS... NOW HAND OVER THAT WALLET! NITRO PICKED A GUY'S WALLET AND TRIED TO PASS IT ON TO ME WHEN HE WAS SEARCHED...

BUT I SLIPPED IT INTO THE PROFESSOR'S POCKET BY MISTAKE! NOW I WANT IT BACK...



COME ACROSS, CHUM... OR I PLUG YOU!

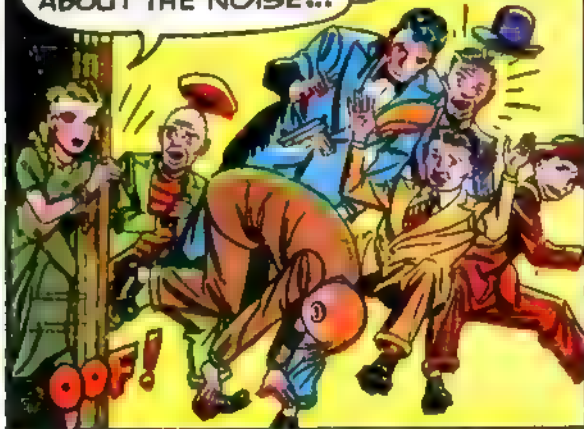
OH, WELL, IT ISN'T WORTH DYING FOR... I HID THE WALLET IN MY SHOE...

I'LL PUT THEM OFF-GUARD... THEN JUMP AT THEM...



AT THAT MOMENT... SHORTY GETS AN UNEXPECTED ASSIST.

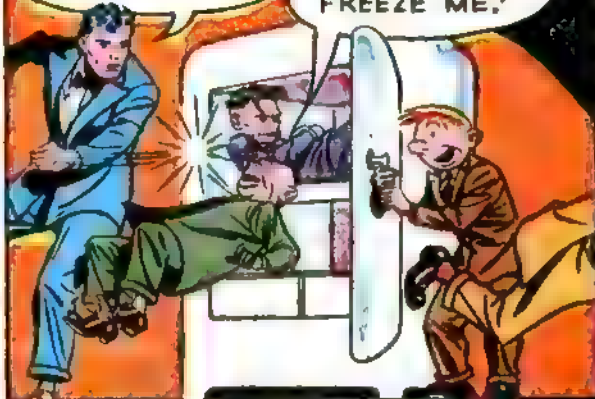
EXCUSE ME, THERE HAVE BEEN COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE NOISE...



THIS TIME, THE SLEUTH TEAM PUTS THE DIMINUTIVE DESPERADOES IN COLD STORAGE.

THAT PUNCH WILL PUT YOU ON ICE.

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO QUICK-FREEZE ME!



WII... LET ME DOWN!

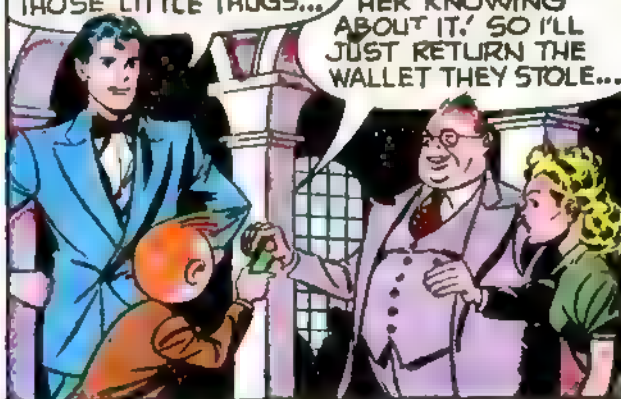
NOT SO FAST, CH'IM... YOU'RE A BAD ACTOR... SO YOU GET THE HOOK!



LATER, AFTER THE POLICE HAVE DEPARTED WITH THE HALF-SIZE HOODLUMS...

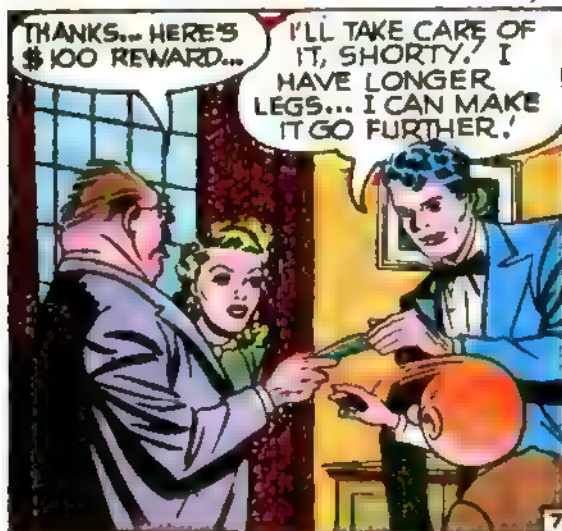
WE'RE GLAD TO LEARN MISS WHITE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THOSE LITTLE THUGS...

THEY WERE JUST USING THE PLACE WITHOUT HER KNOWING ABOUT IT! SO I'LL JUST RETURN THE WALLET THEY STOLE...



THANKS... HERE'S \$100 REWARD...

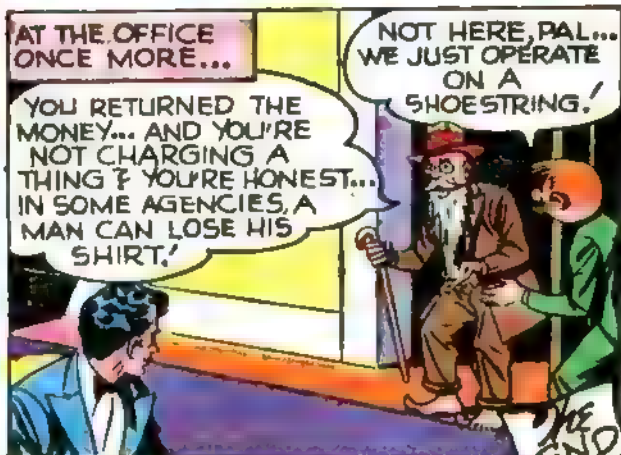
I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT, SHORTY. I HAVE LONGER LEGS... I CAN MAKE IT GO FURTHER!



AT THE OFFICE ONCE MORE...

YOU RETURNED THE MONEY... AND YOU'RE NOT CHARGING A THING? YOU'RE HONEST... IN SOME AGENCIES, A MAN CAN LOSE HIS SHIRT!

NOT HERE, PAL... WE JUST OPERATE ON A SHOESTRING!



THE END

STAN

MUSIAL

FAMOUS CARDINAL SLUGGER

Says:

"ACTIVE FEET LIKE DICK'S AND
MINE DEMAND THE BEST IN SHOES. THAT'S
WHY WE BOTH WEAR WINTHROPS
THEY'RE '4-BAGGER' VALUES
IN ANY MAN'S LEAGUE...
STYLE, COMFORT, FIT,
LONG WEAR!!"



SEE, DAD,
THE ONLY
DIFFERENCE
IS THE
SIZE!

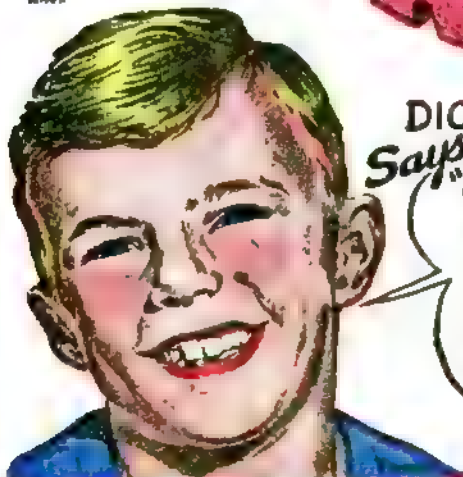


This rugged Winthrop
with Half Track sole
available for men and
boys. Also similar styles
with leather crepe, and
Triple Decker rubber
soles.

DICK, SON OF HARD-HITTING STAN

Says:

"ONLY WINTHROP JRS. GIVE ME
SHOES EXACTLY LIKE DAD'S
THEY'RE 'REALLY' RUGGED--HE-MAN
IN EVERY WAY. ALL THE
KIDS WANT 'EM."



WINTHROP JRS. for boys
Sizes 1 to 9

WINTHROP SHOES for men

WINTHROP SHOE COMPANY • DIV. INTERNATIONAL SHOE COMPANY • SAINT LOUIS

Shorty

HELLO, WHAT'S COOKING?

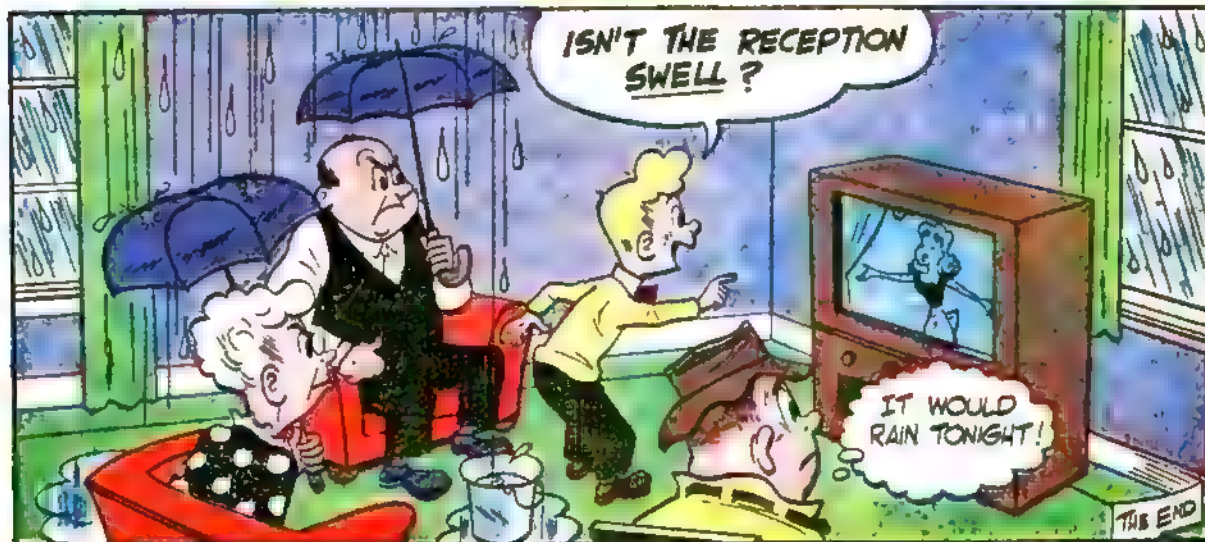
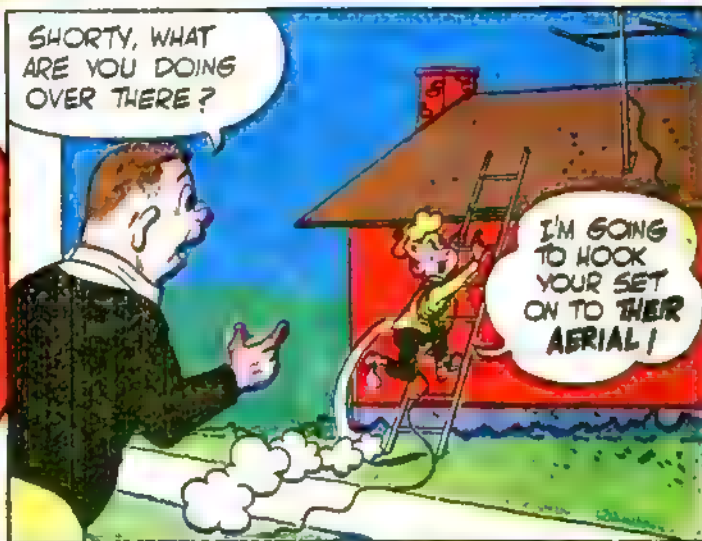
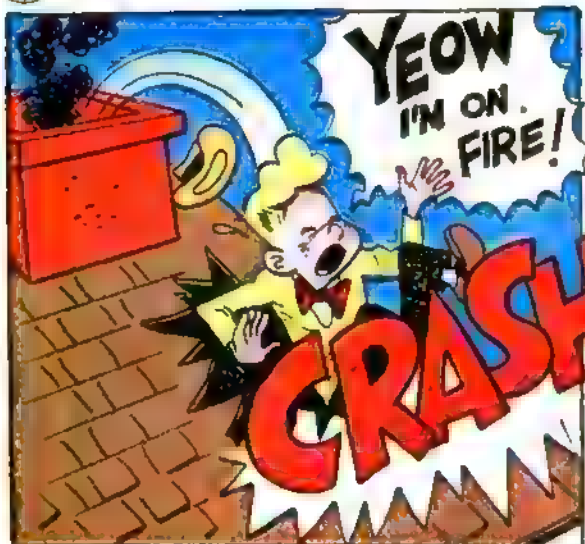
DAD BUILT A TELEVISION SET AND I'M TRYING TO PUT UP AN AERIAL!

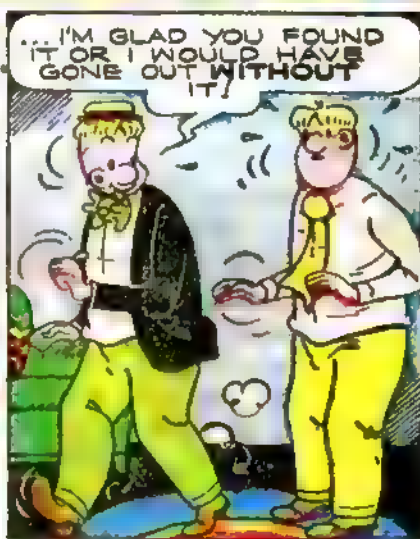
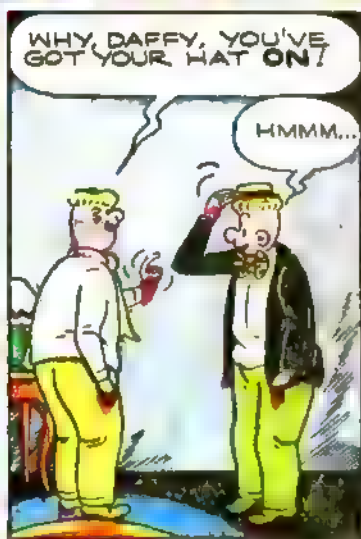
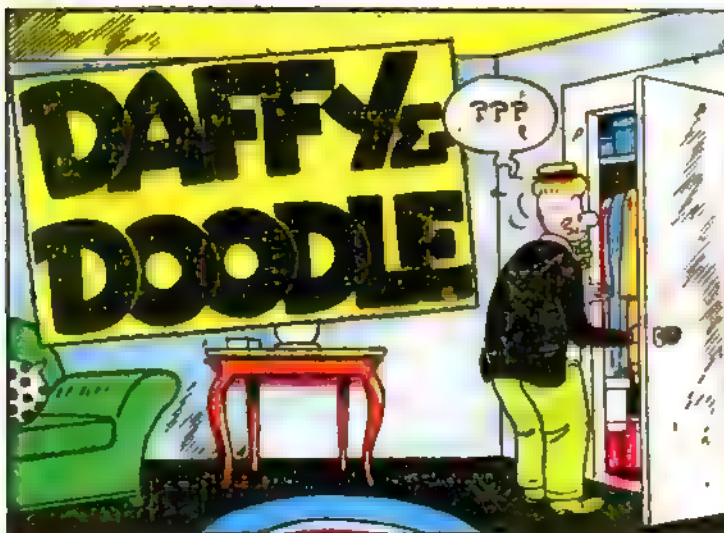
AN AERIAL?

THAT'S RIGHT DOWN MY ALLEY. I'LL HAVE IT UP IN A JIFFY!

LET'S SEE, I CROSS THIS BAR WITH THIS -

GOSH-IT'S GETTING WARM!





STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC. REQUIRED BY T. V. ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1918, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1932 AND JULY 7, 1936

OF DETECTIVE COMICS, published monthly at New York, N. Y. for October 3, 1938

City of New York
County of New York

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared J. M. Liebowitz, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of the DETECTIVE COMICS, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, and circulation of the publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1918, as amended by the Acts of March 3, 1932 and July 7, 1936 (Section 137, Postal Laws and Regulations), printed on the reverse of this form to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the Publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher National Comics Publications, Inc., 480 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.; Editor P. W. Fildes, 480 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.; Managing Editor, none; Business Manager J. M. Liebowitz, 480 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

2. That the owner is: (If owned by a corporation its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, company or other unincorporated concern its name and address, as well as those of each individual member must be given.) National Comics Publications, Inc., Harry Donenfeld, 1 M. Liebowitz, P. W. Fildes, 480 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.; Liebowitz, Joseph L., Liebowitz, Jacob & Liebowitz and Abraham L.

Memin as Successor Trustees for Irwin Donenfeld, Jacob & Liebowitz and Abraham L. Memin as Successor Trustees for Sonia Donenfeld, Frederick M. Iger, Aelene J. Donenfeld all at 480 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: none.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affirmant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affirmant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

J. M. LIEBOWITZ, Business Manager

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 15th day of September 1938
ALFRED B. VAFFY, Notary Public (Commission expires March 30, 1940)

THE PRINTED WORD



HAD you lived in ancient Babylon, your teacher, if you'd had a teacher, would not have said, "The class will turn to lesson fifteen." She would have told you to *revolve* your book to the fifteenth lesson. In Egypt she would have ordered you to *unroll* to the lesson. And in ancient Sumatra, she'd have asked you to *stretch* your book to it.

"Books," at the dawn of history in Babylonia, were clay cylinders, on the sides of which were scratched the letters, signs and symbols which made up the Babylonian written language. That was why the cylinder had to be revolved as the reading progressed.

In Egypt, writing was set down on papyrus, a kind of paper, or upon parchment (sheepskin) and then rolled up, with the script on the inside, so that one had to unroll the book as he went along.

Stretching a book out was necessary in Sumatra because books were folded accordion-fashion and kept between two wooden covers. Incidentally, this type was the nearest approach to the modern book with its flat sheets and covers.

As you can see, reading was pretty awkward in those days. What made it even harder was that the etching on the Babylonian clay cylinders was often indistinct; the Egyptian papyrus smudged the "ink" of that day; and the Sumatra "paper" of bark cracked and obliterated the symbols or letters.

To make matters worse, none of the scribes or writers of those ancient times followed any set rule about writing from left to right, or from right to left. Sometimes they chose the former, sometimes the latter. But, whether the one or the other, there was still one more added confusion: They ran their words and sentences together like this! Not until the year 100 A.D. were punctuation, word-spacing, paragraphing and the like established.

It was the invention of printing by Johannes Gutenberg about 1450 that changed the picture in the field of bookmaking. By this time, books had taken on the form of books as we know them today—flat leaves bound together between covers. But before the advent of printing, each book was written and illustrated by *hand*! A long and tedious process. No wonder books were few. Only scholars, high officials, and wealthy folk could even dream of owning one. Reading was not an accomplishment of the general public in those days.

But with the invention and, later, the perfection, of printing, books were brought within the reach of everyone. Where each book had been painstakingly written out by hand, the printing-press now stamped out thousands from a single set-up of type for that particular issue.

Looking back, it seems strange that not until the fifteenth century did it occur to anyone that movable letters (type), carved

from wood or metal, could be set up in any combination to produce any number of books. The Chinese had found a method of printing a thousand years before this, but their language employs symbols instead of letter-combinations for words, and therefore was less movable and flexible for printing.

The first printing presses, hand-operated and clumsy, were a far cry from the gigantic revolving monsters that today turn out 100,000 pages, colors and all, in a single hour. The old-time presses were quite simple. The type was set upright on a flat table-like square of metal. Next, it was firmly clamped together by a frame on all four sides. It was inked with a leather ball stuffed with wool, and the blank page was placed upon it. Then a flat metal square was pressed down upon the paper from above, worked by a hand lever operating a powerful screw. The screw was next reversed, the metal square hoisted aloft, and the now printed page removed by hand. Slow work, but still a thousandfold speedier than writing each page by hand.

One would think that it would be quite obvious to the inventors and mechanics of that time that, in place of a flat bed of type, a cylinder, with type on its surface and revolving in one direction, could be fed sheets continuously and do the job much quicker. But it was almost four hundred years after Gutenberg's press that the cylinder press revolutionized printing.

Progress, real progress, is always slow. The hand-operated press was finally powered by steam; next the flat type-bed gave place to a crude cylinder press, which revolved slowly and made three stops, one to feed the sheet, one to print the sheet, and one to eject it; then, someone proposed a press made of a swiftly revolving cylinder, with no stops and completely covered with type.

From then on, progress went by leaps and bounds. The speed of the continuously revolving press at first threw the type from the cylinder. They got around this by making duplicate impressions of the type on

solid plates of metal, curved to fit and to be firmly clamped on the cylinder. The printing speed was now far beyond the speed of the mechanical sheet-feeder. The sheet-feeder was discarded and replaced by huge rolls of paper which fed directly into the printing cylinder and were automatically cut into sheets *after* being printed. But setting type was still done by hand, and of course it was impossible for hand-setting to keep pace with the bewildering output of the rotary press. This obstacle was surmounted by the invention of the linotype machine, which can produce as high as 13,000 units of set type in an hour when operated by an expert. A unit or "em" of type is a letter of the alphabet or its equivalent in the space it takes up.

Roughly, the linotype resembles a complicated machine with a typewriter hitched to it. As the operator taps the keys, the machine molds the letters from hot lead, cools them, and places them in a "galley" or receiving form, ready for the proof or correction press. From the corrected galley, the impressions are transferred to the curved metal plates for the cylinder press—and the printing machine is ready to "roll," as they say in printing lingo.

And that is the team-work of today's printing press. Type-setting, paper feeding, and printing have combined in speed and precision to flood the world with the printed page. A modern printing press pours out over 60 miles of printed pages in one hour!

As for pictures and colored illustrations, the method is the same as that used in printing with type, although more complicated. Briefly, picture impressions are transferred to the curved metal plates of the press cylinder and inked with the desired colors, before the two-mile roll of paper begins its unbelievably swift trip through the press.

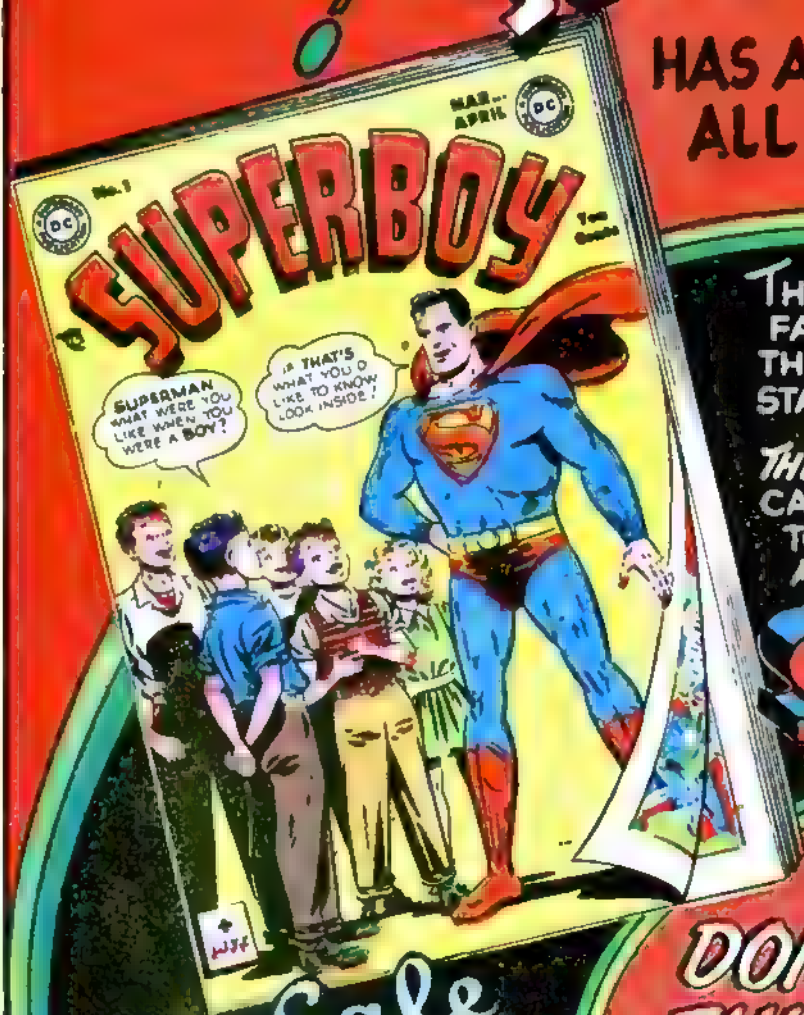
Cutting, binding and folding are done by machinery. Newspapers, magazines and books issue from the mouths of the mighty metal monsters. We've come a long way from those ancient days of revolved clay, unrolled papyrus, and stretched bark.

**A BIG
HIT in
ADVENTURE
COMICS**

— AND NOW

SUPERBOY

**HAS A MAGAZINE
ALL HIS OWN!**



THE MILLIONS OF
FANS WHO HAVE
THRILLED TO THE
STARTLING EXPLOITS
OF
THE MAN OF STEEL
CAN THRILL AGAIN
TO THE AMAZING
ADVENTURES OF

SUPERMAN
WHEN HE
WAS A BOY!

**On Sale
Everywhere**

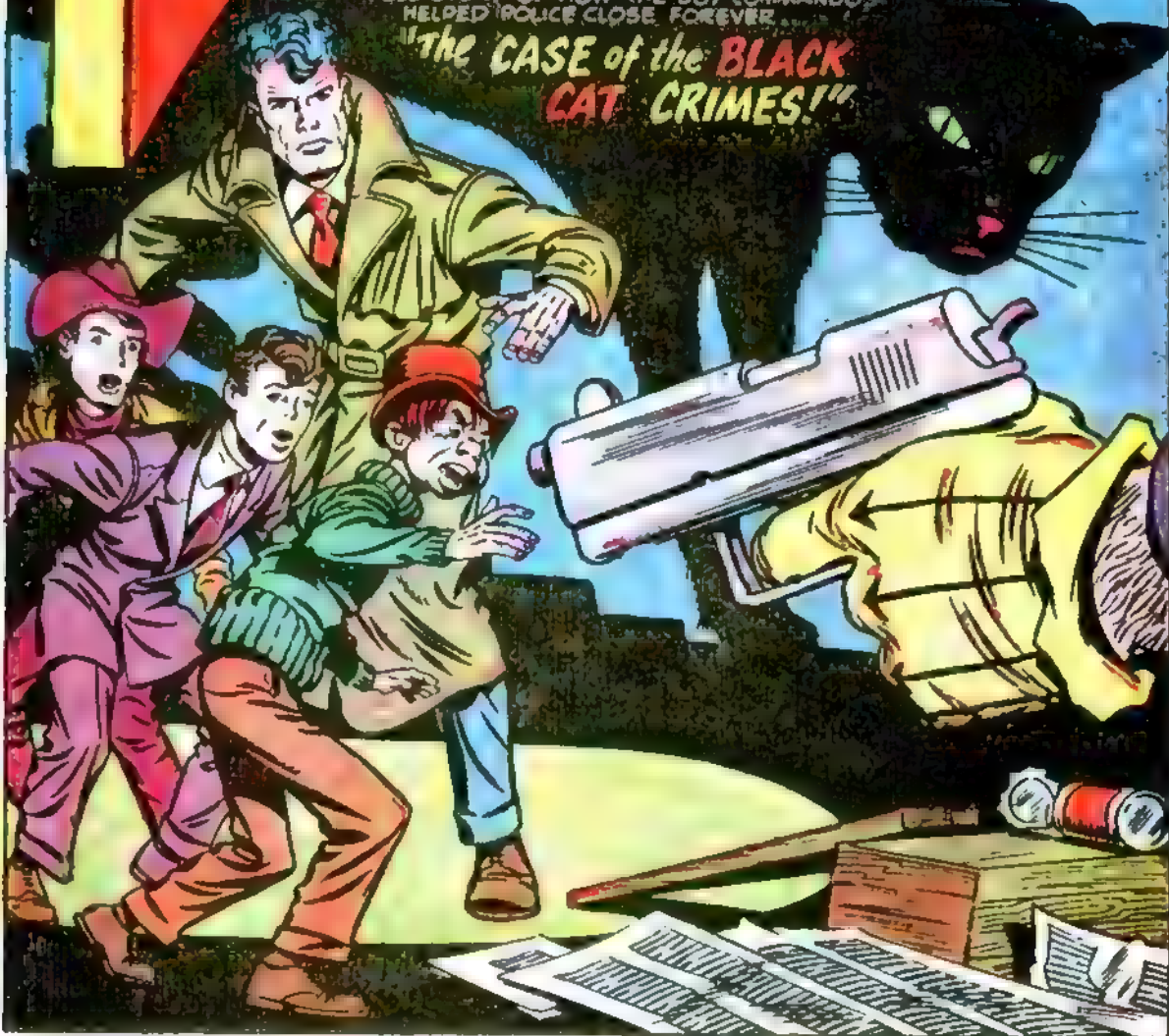
**DON'T MISS
THIS GREAT
FIRST ISSUE!**

The

BOY COMMANDOS

THESE NAMES ARE NOW BURIED IN THE POLICE FILES: JOHN (PERCY) SCHUYLER, MICKY DEFF, HANDSOME HARRY HAZLETT AND AL (ZANY) MUELLER. BUT THEY STILL TALK OF THE PERILOUS ROLE PLAYED BY RID CARTER. THAT OF A "KILLER" SEEKING KILLERS! HERE FOR THE FIRST TIME IS THE FULL STORY OF HOW THE BOY COMMANDOS HELPED POLICE CLOSE FOREVER.

"The CASE of the BLACK CAT CRIMES!"



THESE MEN ALL SOUGHT A COMMON GOAL -- TO BEAT JUSTICE THEY HAVE SINCE PAID THEIR DEBT TO SOCIETY...



JOHN (PERCY) SCHUYLER



MICKY DEFF



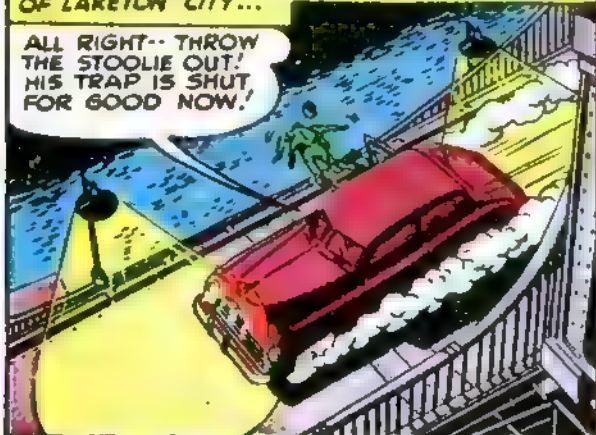
HANDSOME HARRY HAZLETT



AL (ZANY) MUELLER

BUT BEFORE THE LAW EVENED THE SCORE, THESE FOUR--KNOWN AS THE **BLACK CAT GANG**--WROTE A CHAPTER OF TERROR IN THE HISTORY OF LAKETON CITY...

ALL RIGHT--THROW THE STOOLIE OUT! HIS TRAP IS SHUT FOR GOOD NOW!



WHY DID THEY CALL THEMSELVES THE **BLACK CAT GANG**? PERCY SCHUYLER, THE LEADER, WAS ONCE SAVED BY A CAT AFTER A WATERFRONT ROBBERY...

WHOEVER YOU ARE, STOP--OR I'LL...
UH...



M'ROOOWWW...

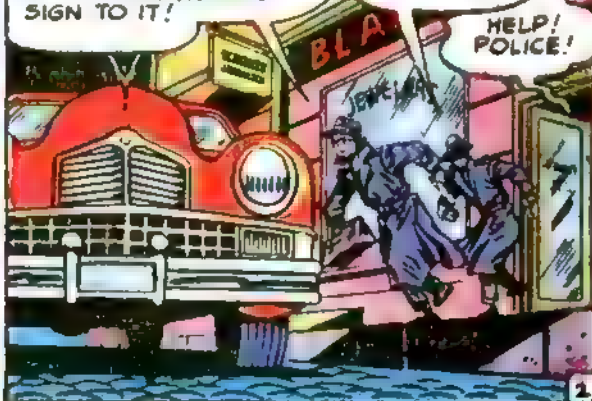
SO... IT'S OUR LUCKY SIGN FROM NOW ON! AND WE'LL EACH DRESS IN BLACK! WE'LL BLEND WITH THE DARKNESS!



THE **BLACK CAT GANG** GREW MORE AND MORE EXPERT...

WE RAN SOME PLANKIN' ACROSS THE STREET'S ENTRANCE AN' HUNG AN "UNDER REPAIR" SIGN TO IT!

BY THE TIME THE COPS CIRCLE AROUND--WE'LL BE GONE!



HELP! POLICE!

ON A JOB, THE DARK RAIDERS NEVER CALLED EACH OTHER BY NAME--THEY USED NUMBERS.

KEEP YOUR HANDS UP! NUMBER FOUR--STAY OUTSIDE AND WATCH! NUMBER TWO, AND THREE START SEARCHING THEM...



MONEY CAME EASY AND THEY SPENT IT THAT WAY...

SO I LOST A GRAND! SO WHAT? HERE'S ANOTHER ONE! PLAY IT, MAC!



OF THE FOUR, ZANY WASN'T TOO BRIGHT...

YA GONNA GET EVEN NUTTIER THAN YA ARE ALREADY, PLAYIN' WITH THEM SILLY TOYS, ZANY?

I GOT THIS TODAY! HO, HO! COST ME A C-NOTE LOOK, HE STANDS UP AN' GROWLS!

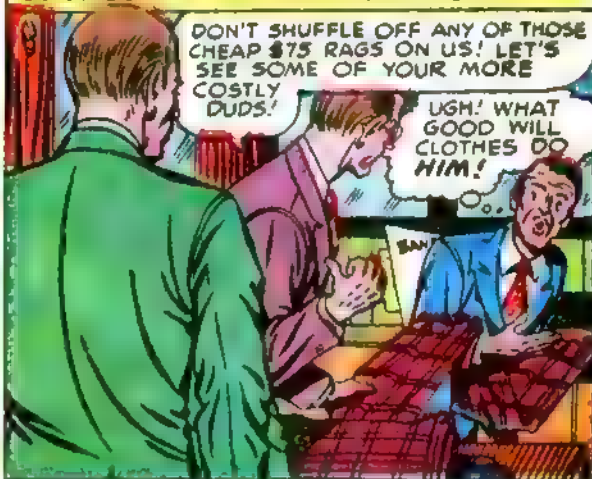
GRRROW..



SCHUYLER WAS THE "HIGH-TONED" ONE...

DON'T SHUFFLE OFF ANY OF THOSE CHEAP \$75 RAGS ON US! LET'S SEE SOME OF YOUR MORE COSTLY DUDS!

UGH! WHAT GOOD WILL CLOTHES DO HIM!



ZANY KEPT USING HIS "EASY MONEY" TO BUY UNIQUE TOY GADGETS...

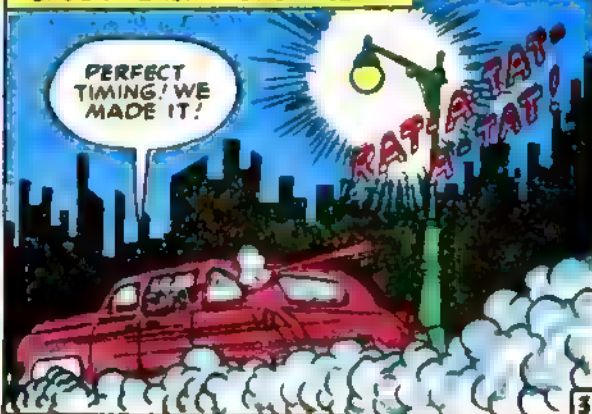
PAID A GUY 90 CLAMS FOR THIS ONE! HO, HO! BET'CHA THE GREEN MONKEY WINS! I BET'CHA-- I BET'CHA...



MICKY DEFF HAD SERVED TIME IN THE REFORMATORY--AND WAS AN AVOWED 'LAW-HATER.' WHILE HANDSOME HAZLETT HAD BEATEN A MURDER RAP IN ARKANSAS, ALL IN ALL, THE GANG CLICKED SMOOTHLY UNDER PERCY'S GUIDANCE...

PERFECT TIMING! WE MADE IT!

RAT-A-TAT-TAT!



AT THE HEIGHT OF THE BLACK CAT CRIMES, RIP CARTER AND HIS BOY COMMANDOS CONFERRED WITH POLICE OFFICERS...

SO THOSE ARE YOUR SUSPECTS!

YES! OUR DETECTIVES REPORT THAT THIS MOB SPENDS A LOT OF CASH--THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS!

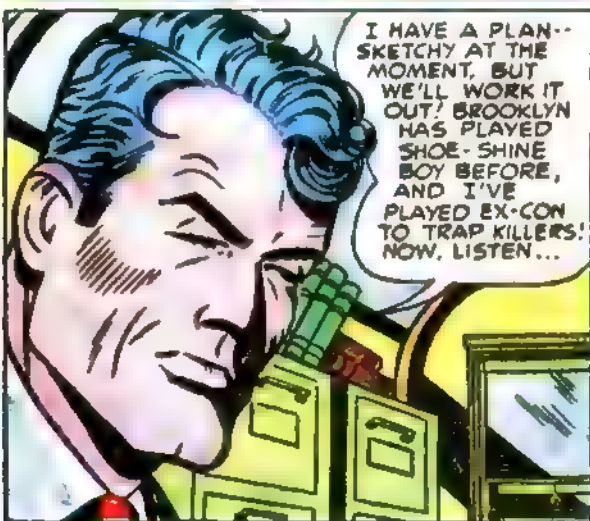


WE KNOW DEFINITELY THAT THEY **SPEND** MONEY, CARTER! BUT WE CAN'T FIND OUT WHERE THEY **GET** IT!

I SEE 'THAT'S WHERE WE CAME IN!



I HAVE A PLAN--SKETCHY AT THE MOMENT, BUT WE'LL WORK IT OUT! BROOKLYN HAS PLAYED SHOE-SHINE BOY BEFORE, AND I'VE PLAYED EX-CON TO TRAP KILLERS! NOW, LISTEN...



THE PLAN COMPLETED, THE COMMANDER CAPTAIN TOOK A TRIP TO THE HOUSE UP THE RIVER, WHERE, IN THE WARDEN'S OFFICE...

I'D LIKE THE RECORD OF A PRISONER, WARDEN, WHO WON'T BE COMING OUT SOON! I MUST STUDY EVERY DETAIL ABOUT HIM!

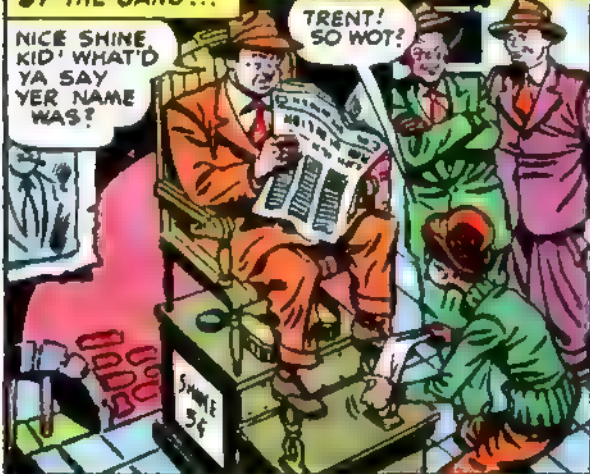
JOEY TRENT IS AS GOOD AS ANY, CAPTAIN CARTER! SAFE CRACKER AND GUNMAN! HE'S GOT SIX YEARS YET!



WHILE BROOKLYN, IN HIS DISGUISE, SET UP "BUSINESS" IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD FREQUENTED BY THE GANG...

NICE SHINE KID! WHAT'D YA SAY YER NAME WAS?

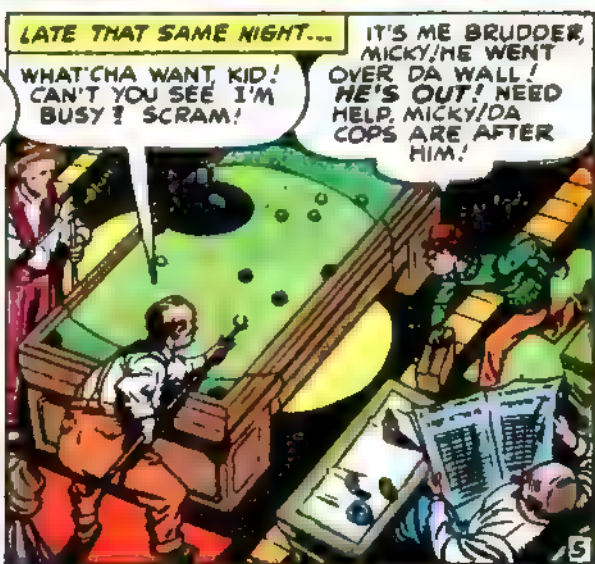
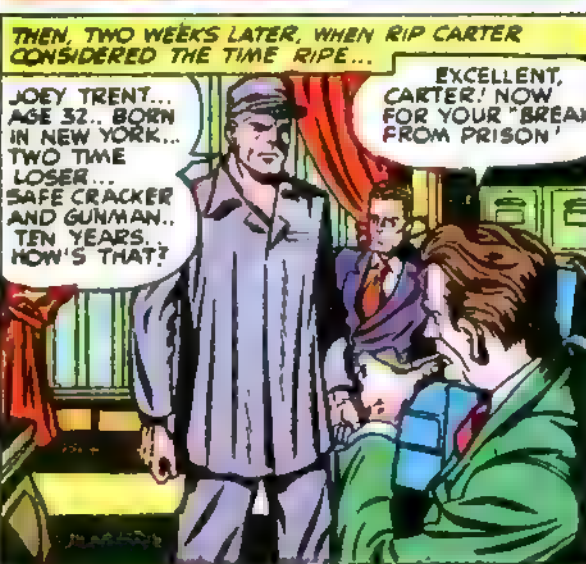
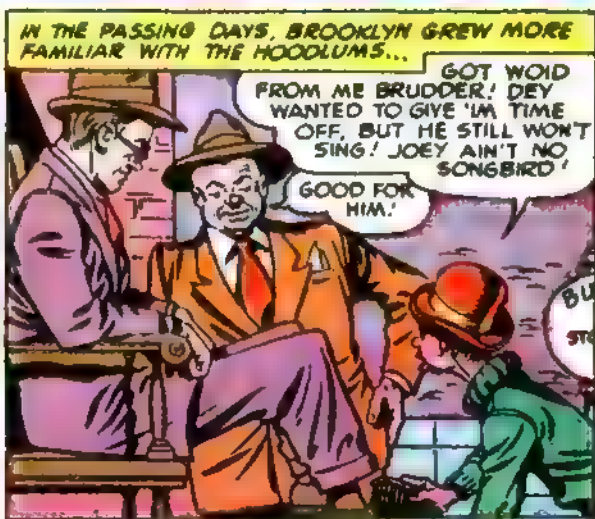
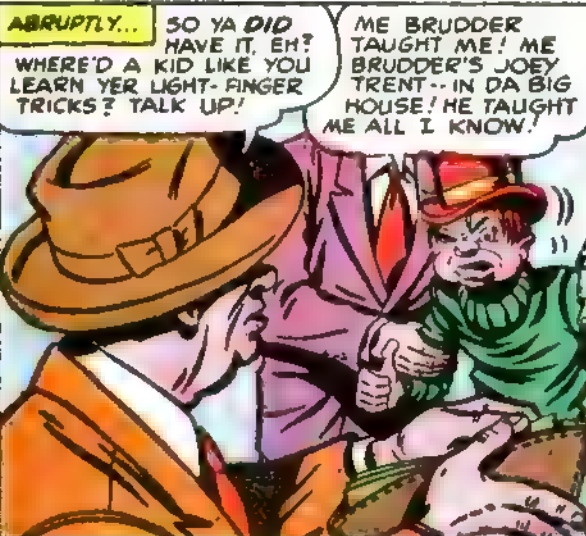
TRENT! SO WOT?

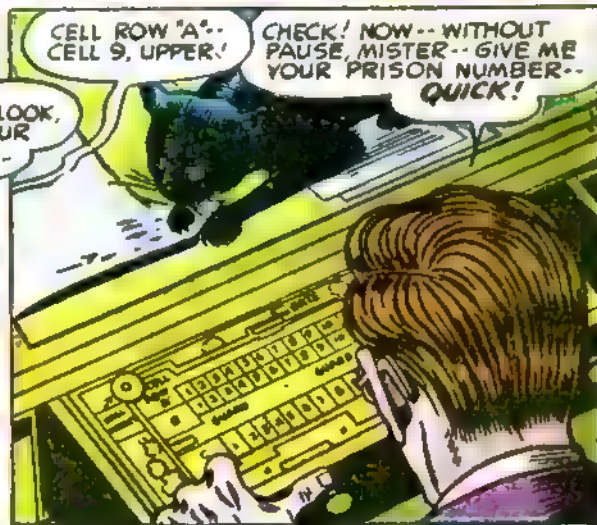
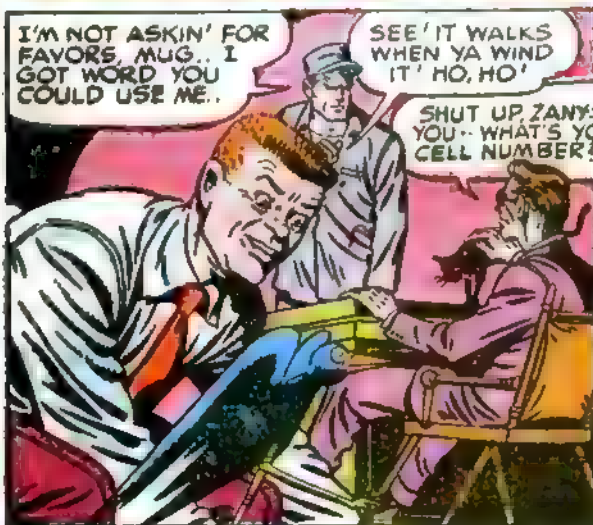
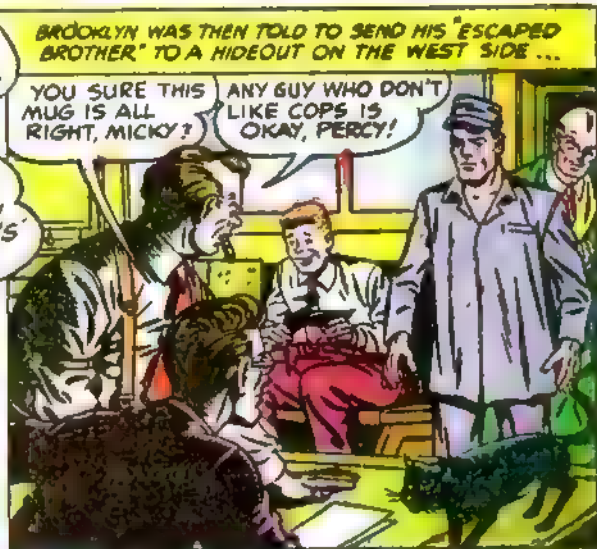


YA DESERVE A NICE TIP, KID... UH-- MY WALLET! IT'S GONE!

I SAW THE BRAT BRUSH AGAINST YER COAT, MICKY! MAYBE HE GRABBED IT!...

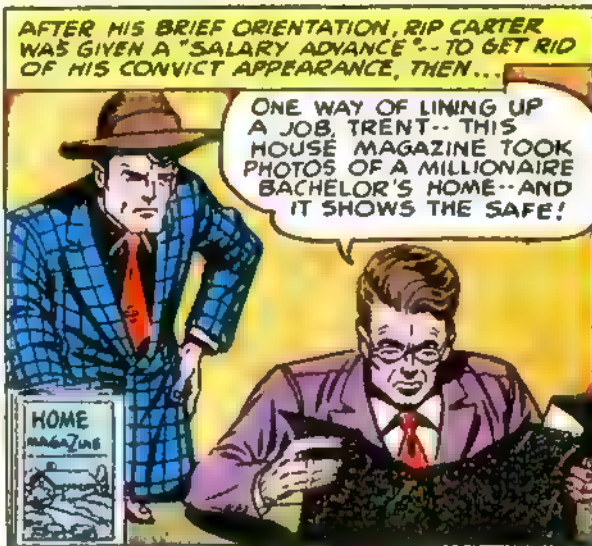








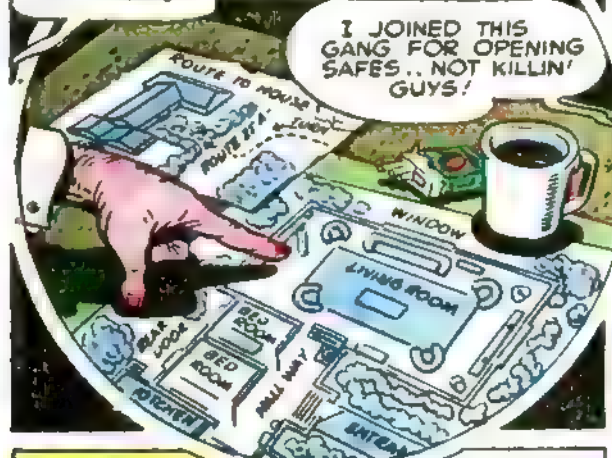
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS!... WE NEVER SPEND MONEY RIGHT AFTER A JOB, BUT WAIT A COUPLE OF WEEKS... WE DON'T CARRY WEAPONS EXCEPT WHEN "WORKING"... AND WE CHANGE HIDEOUTS AFTER EACH RAID...



AFTER HIS BRIEF ORIENTATION, RIP CARTER WAS GIVEN A "SALARY ADVANCE"-- TO GET RID OF HIS CONVICT APPEARANCE, THEN...

ONE WAY OF LINING UP A JOB, TRENT-- THIS HOUSE MAGAZINE TOOK PHOTOS OF A MILLIONAIRE BACHELOR'S HOME--AND IT SHOWS THE SAFE!

YOU'LL SHOW US HOW TO CRACK THAT SAFE, TRENT.. THEN YOU'LL WAIT OUTSIDE THE GUY'S DOOR. IF HE COMES OUT.. YOU'LL KNOCK HIM OFF! SEE?

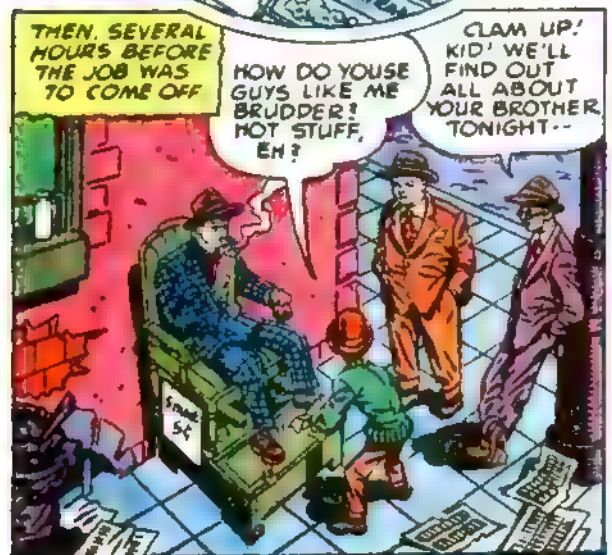


I JOINED THIS GANG FOR OPENING SAFES... NOT KILLIN' GUYS!



I KNOW, PAL.. BUT WE WANT ACCOMPLICES.. NOT WITNESSES! WE'LL KNOW YOU'RE MORE SINCERE IF YOU KILL A GUY! HERE.. USE A KNIFE! NO NOISE!

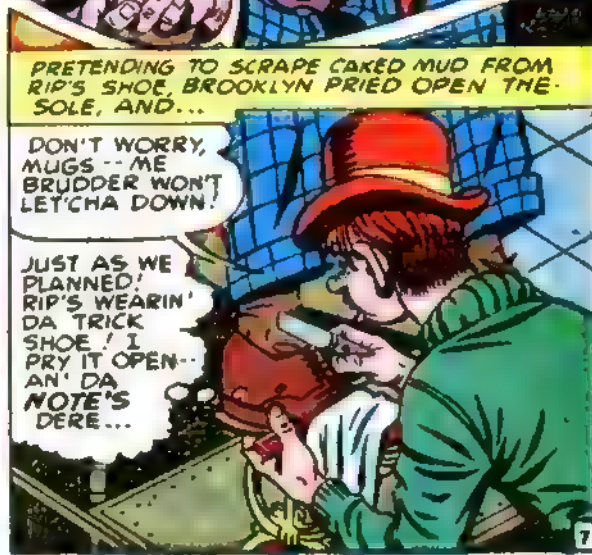
OKAY.. IF THAT'S HOW YOU WANT IT!



THEN, SEVERAL HOURS BEFORE THE JOB WAS TO COME OFF

HOW DO YOUSE GUYS LIKE ME BRUDDER? NOT STUFF, EH?

CLAM UP! KID! WE'LL FIND OUT ALL ABOUT YOUR BROTHER, TONIGHT--



PRETENDING TO SCRAPE CAKED MUD FROM RIP'S SHOE, BROOKLYN PRIED OPEN THE SOLE, AND...

DON'T WORRY, MUGS-- ME BRUDDER WON'T LET'CHA DOWN!

JUST AS WE PLANNED! RIP'S WEARIN' DA TRICK SHOE! I PRY IT OPEN-- AN' DA NOTE'S DERE...

MUCH LATER, THAT SAME NOTE WAS IN THE HANDS OF THE POLICE...

The Falter estate-- safe--
cracking job! I noticed
a tick-gimmick in
photo that gang
mused--! a special tick
wiring for burglar alarm!
That's your cut to make
in-- at 9 sharp!

GREAT GUNS! THAT'S IN **FIVE MINUTES!**
YOU SHOULD'VE GOTTEN
HERE SOONER, BROOKLYN!
LET'S GET MOVING!

I CAME ROUND-
ABOUT! I TOUGHT
DEY MIGHT TRAIL ME,
SO I HAD
TO BE
CAREFUL!

MEANWHILE IN THE FALTER HOME...

NUMBER 5 WAS
RIGHT-- HIS PLAN
WORKED! OKAY,
SWING IT OPEN
AND GRAB THE
DOUGH...

CLANG!
CLANG!
JUMPIN' CAESAR!
THAT ALARM
WAKE UP THE
NEIGHBORHOOD!

FALTER DASHED FROM HIS ROOM WITH A GUN,
BUT THE DISGUISED COMMANDO CAPTAIN WAS
WAITING, AND...

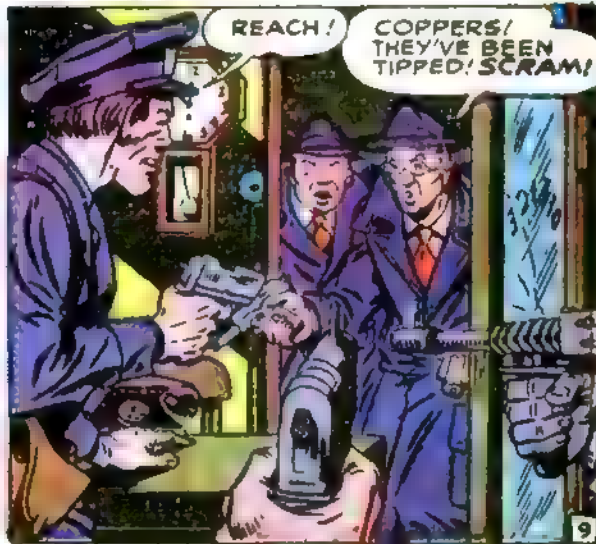
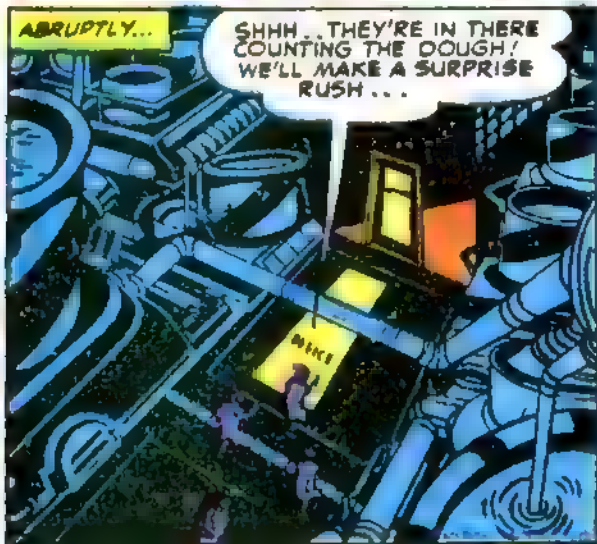
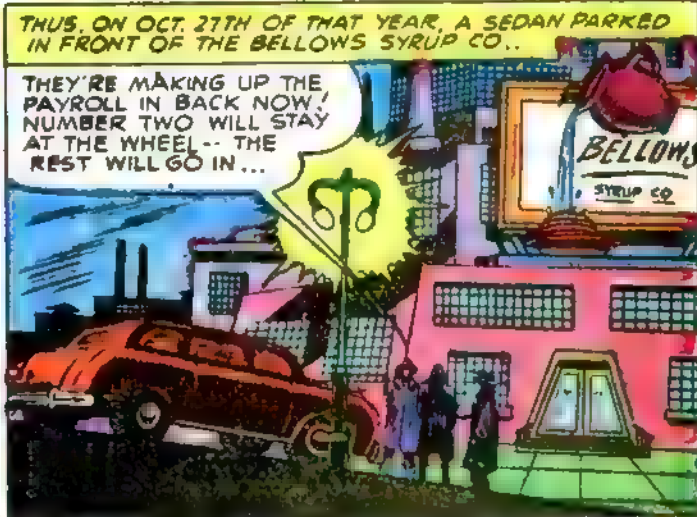
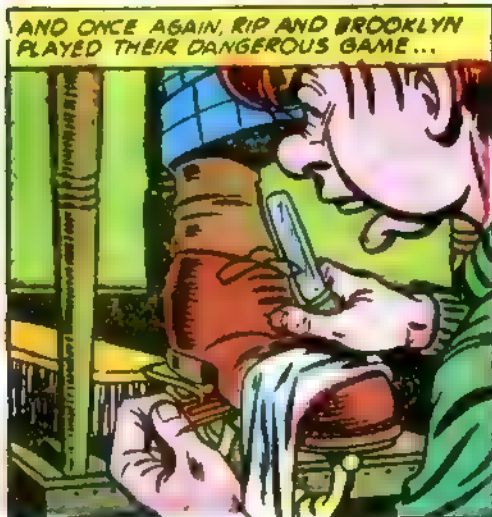
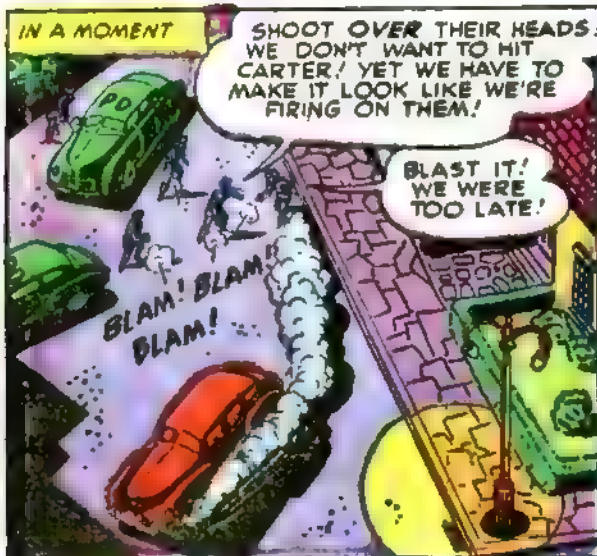
FALTER SANK TO THE FLOOR WITH THE KNIFE
EMBEDDED IN THE FOLDS OF HIS CLOTHES...

UNH...

YOU'LL BE OKAY,
MISTER-- THIS IS
JUST A COMMANDO
JU-JITSU STUNT TO
RENDER YOU
UNCONSCIOUS--
WITHOUT
PAIN...

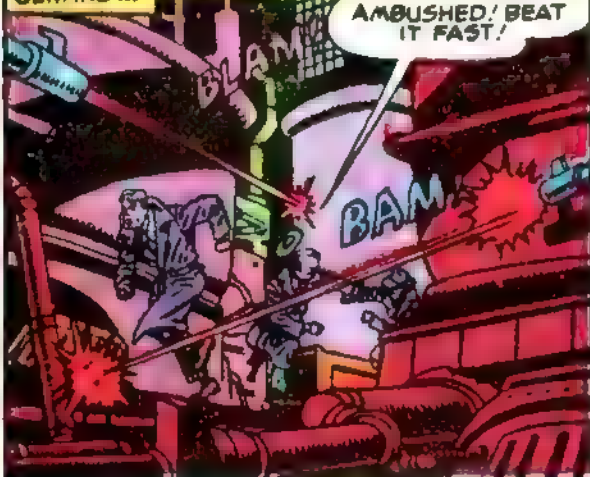
THAT SURE LOOKS REAL
ENOUGH-- BUT IF THEY
FIND OUT HE ISN'T
HURT...

COME ON, FIVE!
GOOD WORK! BUT
THE COPS ARE
HERE!

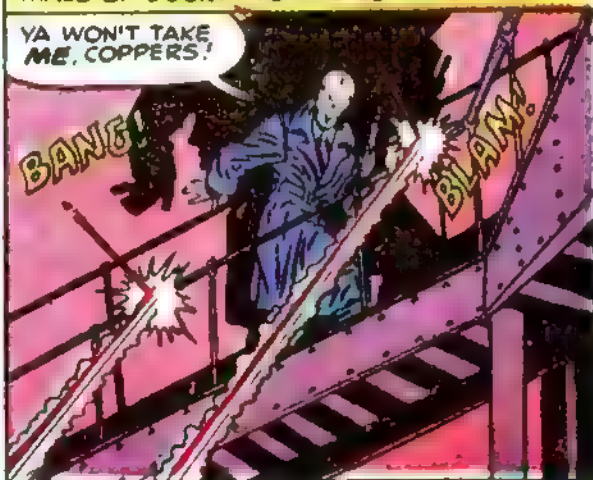




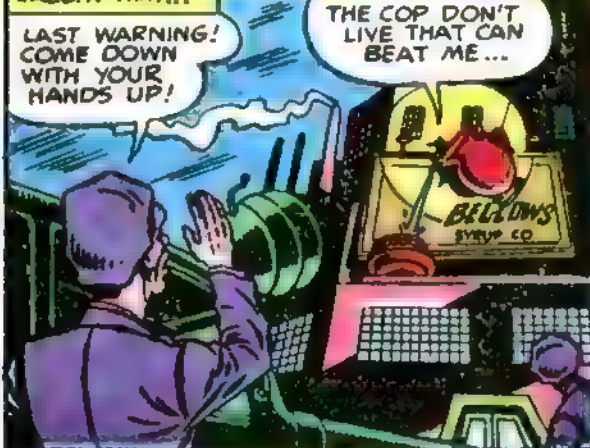
THE SILENT, SHADOWY FACTORY SUDDENLY SPRANG TO LIFE WITH ECHOING ROARS OF GUNFIRE...



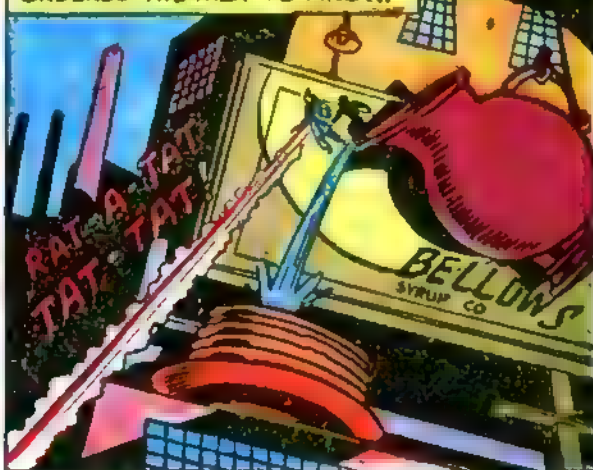
WHILE THE OTHERS MADE IT TO THE CAR, HANDSOME HARRY HAZLETT GOT LOST IN A MAZE OF DOORWAYS AND CORRIDORS...



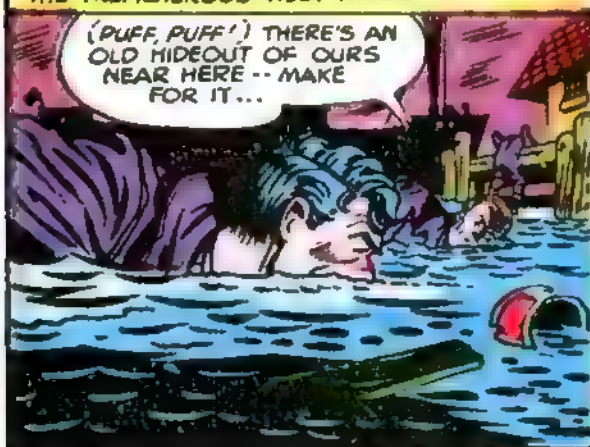
AFTER FIGHTING HIS WAY UPSTAIRS HE CLIMBED OUT ONTO THE HUGE SIGN, WHERE A SPOTLIGHT CAUGHT HIM...



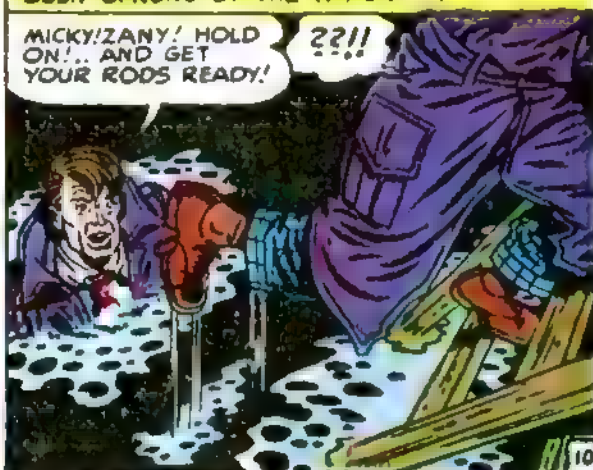
DETECTIVE-LIEUTENANT FRED CONNORS THEN ORDERED HIS MEN TO FIRE...



MEANWHILE, THE REST OF THE GANG HAD BEEN FORCED TO ABANDON THE CAR TO ESCAPE A TIGHTENING DRAGNET, AND THEY SWAM THE TREACHEROUS WEST RIVER...



IT WAS THEN THAT SCHUYLER SPOTTED IT-- THE MECHANISM IN RIP'S TRICK SHOE HAD BEEN SPRUNG BY THE WATER!...



SCHUYLER HAD GUESSED EVERYTHING FROM THE TRICK SHOE. HE KNEW THEN WHERE THE LEAKS HAD COME FROM...

WE GONNA BUMP 'IM FOR GETTIN' NOTES TO THE COPS, PERCY?

NO! WE LET THE COPS BUMP HIM! THAT'LL MAKE US INNOCENT!

WITH A GUN IN HIS BACK, RIP WAS FORCED TO WRITE A FINAL NOTE, WHICH, VIA, THE SHOE-SHINE ROUTE, FOUND ITS WAY TO THE POLICE...

11:00 Sharp! Big job at Rip's jewelry! Leader will be there alone & armed! Shoot to kill! Strike at 11pm sharp! No earlier!
Rip

THIS IS IT, BOYS-- THE CLEAN-UP! GET A SQUAD CAR READY!

AT EXACTLY FIVE MINUTES OF ELEVEN THAT NIGHT...

FIVE MINUTES TO GO! THEN THE COPS BREAK IN! OKAY, MICKY. I'LL SNAP THE LIGHTS OFF.. YOU PULL UP THE SHADE!

THIS FINISHES THE STOOLIE!

A PRETTY PICTURE! JUST THE WAY THE COPS WILL SEE YOU! AND WE'LL BE GONE WHEN THEY ARRIVE!

QUIT CROWIN' PERCY! LET'S SCRAM! I'M JITTERY!

THERE WAS ONE UNFORESEEN ELEMENT-- AT EXACTLY 10:55, ZANY, THE GANG DRIVER, SPOTTED A COLORFUL TOY IN A DEPARTMENT STORE ACROSS THE STREET...

LITTLE PEOPLE DANCIN'! I WANT THAT TOY! I GOTTA HAVE IT!



THEN... THAT DUMB ZANY IS GONE, PERCY! AN' HE SHUT THE MOTOR AN' TOOK THE CAR KEYS WITH HIM! DUMB! DID HE THINK ANYONE WOULD STEAL THIS CAR!

LISTEN! COPS COMING ALREADY! WE'RE TRAPPED, MICKY!

WH-REEEE!

SQUAD CAR NO. 12 ARRIVED WITH GUNS BLASTING AWAY...

RUN, MICKY-BACK THROUGH THE JEWELRY STORE! IT'S OUR ONLY WAY!

THEY GOT US, PERCY! THEY GOT US! I'M SCARED!



MICKY DEFF THE COWARD, LOST HIS LAST OUNCE OF FALSE COURAGE...

DON'T SHOOT, COPPERS! PLEASE GIMME A CHANCE! LOOK-- I AIN'T ARMED-- I GIVE UP! I'LL EVEN SAVE YER STOOLIE PAL INSIDE! I'M SINGIN' COPPERS... DON'T GIVE IT T'ME!..

TAKE THE RAT IN, BILL!



MICKY DEFF PAID FOR HIS NUMEROUS MURDERS, WHILE SCHUYLER, AFRAID TO FACE THE RAP, TOOK THE GAS-STOVE EXIT...



THAT CRAZY MICKY-WENT YELLOW ON ME! WELL-- I'M BEATIN' IT!

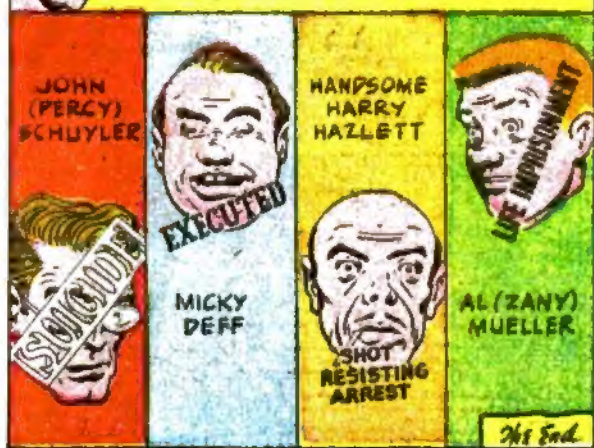
THEN WHILE BROOKLYN AND SGT. MIKE FLANNERY RELEASED RIP, OUTSIDE...

DON'T SHOOT MY TOY... DON'T SHOOT MY TOY! IT'S MINE! I WON'T LET YOU TAKE MY TOY!

DON'T FIRE, BOYS-- HE'S BOOBY-HATCH MATERIAL FOR THE REST OF HIS LIFE!



AND THUS ENDED LAKETON CITY'S NOTORIOUS BLACK CAT GANG-- FOUR MEN WHO PLAYED A LOSING HAND...



Prizes for Everyone!

Here's your opportunity to secure any of the premiums shown below (plus many others as they appear in our latest catalog). Simply send for fast selling Garden Spot Seeds. Sell at once to friends and neighbors at 10c each. Return the money collected and select your prize in accordance with our offers. **SEND NO MONEY — WE TRUST YOU.**

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS



CANDID TYPE CAMERA

Mixed Focus, eye level view finder, 16 exposures. Beautiful Black case.

Yours for selling two 40-pocket orders of Garden Spot Seeds.

Blue Bird COOKING SET

5 piece set. Durable. A welcome addition to any kitchen.

Sell only 40 packets of Garden Spot Seeds.



FOR MEN AND WOMEN

UKULELE



Easy to play. ... Instruction Book included. Sell only 40 pkts. of Garden Spot Seeds.

BASKET BALL

Rubber Valve type bladder. Lacing needle and lace included.

Yours for selling two 40-pocket orders of Garden Spot Seeds.



Exquisite DINNER SET

... Nineteen pieces of latest fashion designed pieces.

Sell only two 40 packet orders of Garden Spot Seeds.



Best Laplace Colors

PRIZE TYPEWRITER

Yours for selling only 40 Pkts. of Seed

WE WILL PAY TOTAL OF \$10 FOR BEST, NEATEST, NICEST COMPOSED LETTERS WRITTEN ON THIS MACHINE AND SENT TO US BY JULY 1, 1949.



SCHOOL OUTFIT

Self Filling Fountain Pen, Mechanical Pencil, School Bag, and Webster Dictionary all for selling only 40 pkts. of Seed plus 50c.



POCKET WATCH for Men

Dependable & faithful companion. Pull-out pendulum set. (Supply Limited)

Sell 40 packets of Garden Spot Seeds, plus 50c



ROLLER SKATES

Sturdy Type. Ball Bearing. Built for Fun and Hard Usage.

Sell only two 40 pkt. orders of Garden Spot Seeds.



Good Luck FISHING OUTFIT

Steel rod, sturdy 20 yard capacity reel, medium weight steel, spring line, 8 hooks and 2 lead sinkers, orange, red, black, blue and metal lures.

Sell only 40 packets of Garden Spot Seeds



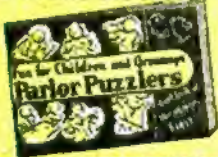
WRIST WATCHES



SUPPLY LIMITED — 40 watches are offered today by our ability to get delivery from the manufacturers. For Men, Women, Boys and Girls. Guaranteed by Nationally known manufacturers. Reliable

YOURS FOR SELLING TWO 40 PKT. ORDERS OF GARDEN SPOT SEED

THIS BOOK REWARD YOURS AS A... FOR ANSWERING THIS AD



24 page Book of Parlor Puzzlers... fun for Children and Grown-Ups. Will be sent right along with the seeds.

MAIL COUPON NOW

42nd YEAR

LANCASTER COUNTY SEED COMPANY
Station 440, Paradise, Penna.

Please send me 40 packets (one order) of Garden Spot Seeds to sell at 10c a pkt. for a fine gift. I will sell and pay for seeds in 30 days. Include the Free Book of Parlor Puzzlers.

Check here ☐ for 80 packets if you want to sell for a "2nd order" premium

NAME _____

POST OFFICE _____ STATE _____

STREET OR R. D. _____ BOX _____

PRINT YOUR LAST NAME PLAINLY BELOW

Save 2 cents by filling in, posting and mailing this coupon on a 1c Post Card TODAY.

NOW YOU CAN "Breeze Through" ANY AUTO REPAIR JOB!

Free
7-DAY OFFER!



**Clear, Pictured Instructions
on Every Job on Every Car
Built from 1935 to 1948!**

American • Bantam • Auburn • Austin
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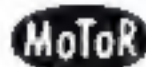
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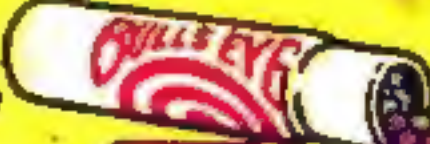
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